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## Sex assault spurs closer look at ridesharing bylaw

### TRANSPORTATION

**Safety measures  
currently  
don't require  
logo decals**



**Helen  
Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

Police believe a man exploited an opportunity, posing as a rideshare operator before assaulting his female passenger.

And as a result the city's lawmakers are looking at whether or not safety measures for their newly-minted bylaw are enough.

Although the city's ridesharing bylaw currently puts driver and passenger safety first with many measures, Tapp Car is the only company that took it a step further requesting a large visible decal to keep their cars identifiable.

"This might be something we should look at a little more assertively," said Calgary's chief compliance officer Marc Halat. "We'll take a look at the identifiers that might

be better than just a sticker."

Halat said policies will be reviewed after a woman mistakenly got in a minivan, thinking it was her rideshare, and according to police, was subsequently sexually assaulted on her own doorstep by a man they believe wasn't a licensed driver at all.

But in the time rideshares have been running in Calgary, Halat noted, this is the first incident of its kind, and he thinks the bylaw is serving its intent.

"These kinds of circumstances happen sadly, not only in the TNC environment, but it happens in the same arena that we refer to as bandit taxis," Halat said. "Bad people are out there, and bad people will prey on advantageous positions they think they have — we can't control everything."

According to police, on early March 5, a minivan pulled up to a group of people standing outside of a restaurant in the 300 block of 11 Avenue SW. The driver asked if anyone needed a ride, and police al-

lege he told the group that he was a rideshare driver. By coincidence, one woman in the group had made arrangements through an app for a ride and hopped in.

Inspector Mike Bossley of the CPS Investigative Operations Section said the drive took 25 minutes and the man insisted on walking the victim to her doorstep.

"This was a predatory act by an individual that thought they could take advantage of a situation," Bossley said.

The driver is described as a lighter-skinned man with a distinct accent in his early 30s. He stands approximately five-foot-10 with a medium build, dark eyes, clean-cut and no facial hair. At the time of the alleged assault, he was wearing a black baseball hat.

The minivan is described as a navy blue 2008 to 2010 Dodge Caravan with cloth seats.

Police confirmed that the actual ridesharing driver the woman hailed went to pick her up, but left without her when she wasn't there.



**Bad people will prey  
on advantageous  
positions they think  
they have.**

Marc Halat



Justice Robin Camp leaves  
a Canadian Judicial Council  
inquiry in September 2016.  
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

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judge steps down  
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# Library sees jump in members, new facility to open next year

PUBLIC SERVICES

**CEO expects to see 800,000 active users by next year**



As the Calgary Public Library zooms through another year, its 800,000 active member goal is in sight and likely to arrive just in time for the new library to open in 2018.

In 2016, the library had 400,000 more visitors than in the previous year. As of the beginning of 2017, the library sat at more than 600,000 active members, which is up by more than 80,000 users over 2016.

Two years ago, the library made its membership free for everyone, and at that time saw a spike in new members. But library CEO Bill Ptacek said they're seeing consistent new membership numbers every month.

"We register about 10,000 to 12,000 new patrons per month," Ptacek said. "That's after the initial flurry of this."

To help boost numbers they've partnered with the CBE, which is signing up new students for cards every year.

But it's not just grabbing new members; the library has hung on to members through



Two years ago the Calgary Public Library made its membership free and has since seen a spike in members. JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO

its retention program, where it shakes branches to make sure members haven't moved out of town. He said that program helps them keep their active user numbers steady.

"There are other indicators that support people aren't just

coming in the building, but stuff is happening here," said Ptacek.

Wireless sessions are up and the library is seeing more than 60,000 sessions monthly. It's not just about coming to the library and checking out books;

people are staying there and checking out Chromebooks, printing resumes and more.

Thomas Dixon got his library card when the Shaganappi location opened in 2016. He noted that it's a great place to read and browse, and noticed that

the children's section is busy, even noisy, with action.

"When we made library cards free we made printing free for the first 50 pages," Ptacek said. "A lot of people are printing resumes."

He said groups that are help-

BY THE NUMBERS

10%

The percentage increase of new members in 2016 over 2015.

4%

The percentage decrease of people taking out physical items in 2016 over 2015.

41%

More people are booking rooms at the library. This number represents the percentage increase in 2016 over 2015.

20%

The percentage increase of wireless sessions started in 2016 over 2015.

ing out-of-work Calgarians have been giving the library kudos because of their printing promo. It helps the library become actively involved in citizens' job searches, which Ptacek thinks is a big help.

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# No real danger at Okotoks school



Ecole Okotoks Junior High School had regular police presence, including the RCMP canine unit on Thursday, as they continued to investigate a threat against the school earlier in the week. DARREN KRAUSE/METRO

## SAFETY

### Threat source identified, no criminal charges laid



**Darren Krause**  
Metro | Calgary

RCMP say there was no real danger and no charges will be laid after a student overheard possible threats against a school in Okotoks on Wednesday.

Police had a heavy presence around the Ecole Okotoks Junior High School early Thursday morning, including the RCMP canine unit doing a perimeter and interior search of the building.

RCMP spokesman Cpl. Curtis Peters said they were made aware of the apparent threat around 4:40 p.m. Wednesday, after a student informed the school's principal of a conversation that was overheard among other students.

After consultation with the

RCMP, the Foothills School Division determined that it was in the best interest for the safety of students and staff to close the school.

"You'll see additional officers making patrols and you'll see them out and about in town, but the nature of the threat was specific to this particular school. We don't have any reason to believe the threat extends to other schools in the area."



**It was out of an abundance of caution that we decided to close the school.**

Superintendent John Bailey

At 7:15 p.m. Thursday, the school announced on its website that the source of the threat had been found.

"The RCMP has identified and interviewed the involved students and determined that

while the conversations did take place, there was no plan and no intent to carry out the acts," read the statement. "For these reasons, no criminal charges will be laid in this case. The identities of the young persons involved will not be released."

Foothills School Division (FSD) superintendent John Bailey said in deciding to close, they were taking the safety of students and staff very seriously.

"It was out of an abundance of caution that we decided to close the school," Bailey told reporters at a news conference Thursday.

He said in his two-and-a-half-year tenure with FSD he's not seen another threat like this come up. Nothing prior to yesterday's notification raised a red flag with the school, Bailey said.

**8,200**

The Foothills School Division operates 19 public schools with more than 8,200 students.



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# 'Knees together' judge stepping down

## COURT

## Council had recommended Robin Camp be removed

A judge who asked a sexual assault complainant in a trial why she couldn't keep her knees together quit the bench Thursday after a scathing re-

buke from the body that oversees the Canadian judiciary.

In a statement distributed by his lawyer, Justice Robin Camp said he will quit as a member of the Federal Court effective Friday.

"I would like to express my sincere apology to everyone who was hurt by my comments," Camp said in the statement. "I thank everyone who was generous and kind to me and my family in the last 15

months, particularly my legal team."

The move came after the Canadian Judicial Council recommended Thursday that Camp be removed from the bench, calling his conduct "manifestly and profoundly destructive" to the impartiality and integrity of the judiciary.

The council's decision supported a recommendation in November by a disciplinary panel that was reviewing the

original sexual assault trial of Alexander Wagar.

Court transcripts from the 2014 trial in Calgary show that Camp, who was a provincial court judge at the time, called the complainant "the accused" numerous times and told her "pain and sex sometimes go together."

He questioned the complainant's morals and suggested her attempts to fight off the man were feeble.

Camp found Wagar not guilty, but the Appeal Court ordered a new trial. Last month, Wagar was acquitted again.

The council said that Canadians expect their judges to know the law, have empathy and to recognize and question any past personal attitudes that might prevent them from acting fairly.

Federal Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould said the government planned to have Camp

removed had he not quit.

Kim Stanton of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund welcomed Camp's resignation.

"It is simply appropriate that Justice Camp should resign," she said in an email.

The complainant, who was 19 at the time of the first trial, told the disciplinary hearing last year that Camp's comments had made her hate herself. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Justice Minister Kathleen Ganley has announced funding to hire prosecutors to clear a backlog of cases. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CASE BACKLOG

## Alberta to hire more Crown prosecutors

Alberta is hiring a total of 50 more prosecutors to clear a backlog that is forcing the Crown to stay hundreds of charges, including cases of impaired driving.

Justice Minister Kathleen Ganley announced on Thursday that 35 more prosecutors will be hired on top of 15 that were already being recruited.

She also said another 30 court support staff such as clerks and data entry people will be added as part of a \$14.5-million item to be outlined in next week's budget.

"I know hearing about cases being stayed is very concerning, and I want you to know I'm concerned, too," Ganley told a news conference held outside a hearing room in Edmonton Court of Queen's Bench.

The hirings will bring the total number of prosecutors in Alberta to more than 360 by next year.

Last week, the Alberta Crown Attorneys' Association said a shortage of prosecutors led to stays involving 200 people facing a variety of

charges, including weapons offences and impaired driving.

At the same time, Edmonton's chief Crown prosecutor stayed 15 charges.

Opposition leaders say money for more prosecutors is long overdue.

"It is absolutely disappointing to know that this government actually needed a public outcry for them to do anything," said Progressive Conservative member Mike Ellis, a former Calgary police officer.

Opposition Wildrose Leader Brian Jean said he's concerned that many cases will be tossed out in the next six months before the new prosecutors are in place. "How

many criminals are going to be walking the streets without being prosecuted as a result of lack of resources?" asked Jean.

The province is taking a number of steps to reduce case loads and streamline a system stretched thin by a rising population and a recent Supreme Court decision that sets hard deadlines on the length of prosecutions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# 360

The total number of prosecutors in Alberta by next year after hiring 50 more Crown prosecutors.



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# Jury 'overwhelmed': Defence

## APPEAL

### But Crown says couple had fair hearing in meningitis case

A lawyer for parents convicted in the meningitis death of their toddler son says the trial judge allowed the jury to be overwhelmed by medical evidence, but the Crown says the couple received a fair hearing.

The Alberta Court of Appeal heard arguments Thursday about the conviction of David and Collet Stephan in the 2012 death of their 19-month-old son Ezekiel.

They were convicted last year of failing to provide the necessities of life to the boy, who they treated with natural remedies such as garlic, onion and horseradish rather than taking



Collet and David Stephan during a break in their appeal hearing in Calgary on March 9.  
TODD KOROL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

him to a doctor.

Justice Rodney Jerke sentenced David Stephan to jail for four months and gave his

wife three months of around-the-clock house arrest — allowing her to only go out for medical appointments and church.

Defence lawyer Karen Molle said the trial judge didn't properly exercise his gate-keeping function regarding expert evi-

dence and allowed too many Crown experts to testify.

She said the amount of evidence from three doctors unfairly distracted jurors from the real question of whether the Stephans did anything different from any other reasonable parent.

"Doctors are educated and trained to identify meningitis, but the test is what a reasonable parent would do, not a medically trained professional," Molle said.

"We can't undo the impression that these doctors left on this jury. The jury is emotionally reacting to ... a week-long barrage of inflammatory and emotional evidence."

Molle also argued evidence from former chief medical examiner Anny Sauvageau was improperly restricted, as was that of Ezekiel's grandfather.

"This case became a battle of experts."

Crown prosecutor Julie

Morgan argued the Stephans received a fair trial.

"The appellant is not challenging the medical findings. The issue is whether they received a fair trial, not whether their defence was ultimately successful," said Morgan.

Morgan said the jury heard evidence from both sides and came to the correct conclusion.

"Choices have consequences, only in this case the consequences were tragic. The appellants chose not to provide Ezekiel with proper medical attention," she said.

"The jury found a reasonable, prudent person in their situation would have foreseen medical attention was required and they failed to provide the necessities of life. Sadly their choices did not leave medical professionals enough time to save Ezekiel and by the time they were involved it was too late."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## RECYCLING

### City dealing with compliance complaints



Helen Pike  
Metro | Calgary

Calgary's multi-family recycling bylaw came into effect just one year ago, and since picking up your tenants cans and bottles became mandatory there have been more than 300 complaints to the city about compliance.

According to Leanne Michie, waste diversion specialist with Waste & Recycling Services from the City of Calgary, there were a total of 315 complaints that multi-family units didn't have proper recycling programs, 275 of which were resolved over the year, and the rest are still ongoing files.

"We received quite a lot of

complaints for non-compliance after Feb. 1st," Michie said. "Our educators are still working with the remaining buildings and tenants."

The city's enforcement of bylaws is complaint based, so action is only taken if a resident takes it up with 311 and files a service request.

Gerry Baxter with executive director at the Calgary Residential Rental Association told Metro the landlords he represents are concerned that although they're paying for recycling services, their tenants aren't as quick on the uptake.

"I had a couple of people approach me yesterday, they're concerned about the upcoming (organics) bylaw, they're not confident their tenants



I had a couple of people approach me yesterday, they're concerned about the upcoming (organics) bylaw, they're not confident their tenants will actually do it.

Gerry Baxter

will actually do it," Baxter said. "They have a devil of a time trying to get them to recycle."

Landlords noticed going private was costing them more than they previously paid with their garbage collection.

Baxter said there's also a concern when tenants aren't sorting their garbage right that the city will come back on the owner, or building manager.

"The city does offer to help, and the city does offer infor-

mation," Baxter said. But he noted that some of the landlords are handing out information pamphlets, and residents continue to throw all their garbage in one bag.

According to the city's fall survey, 82 per cent of multi-family residents reported having a recycling program in their building.

There are approximately 160,000 multi-family units in Calgary; that's a building with more than five units.

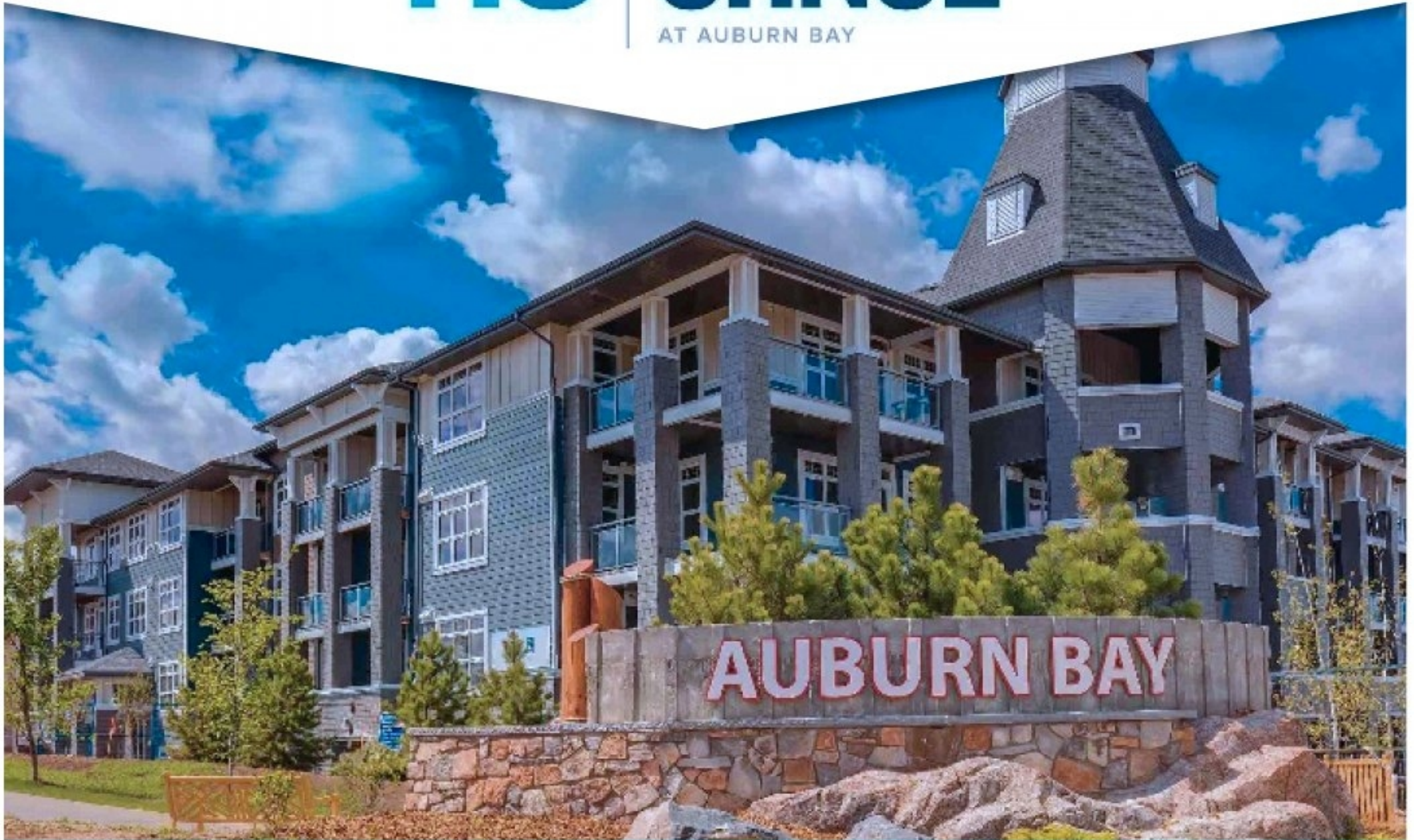


According to the city's fall survey, 82 per cent of multi-family residents reported having a recycling program in their building. METRO FILE



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## CRIME

# Officers pepper sprayed during arrest



**Lucie Edwardson**  
Metro | Calgary

In the early hours of Wednesday morning, two Calgary police officers were pepper sprayed twice in the face while attempting to arrest a man allegedly involved in a stolen vehicle incident.

According to CPS District 4 inspector Kelly Campbell, around 2 a.m. Wednesday, patrol officers tried to stop a car on Penbrooke

Drive SE. The vehicle didn't stop for the officers and fled.

The officers involved called for backup and didn't pursue the vehicle. A short time later police located the vehicle abandoned on Fonda Court SE, where they confirmed it was stolen.

After following footprints in the snow, officers safely took a woman into custody, but the male driver of the stolen vehicle was still at large.

Officers confronted the man near 36 Street and Memorial

Drive NE, where the suspect pulled an object out, forcing officers to deploy a conducted energy weapon (CEW).

The suspect then pepper sprayed both officers directly in their faces. One of the officers deployed their CEW for a second time — again without success — and the man pepper sprayed the officers for a second time.

The man tried to run again and the officers followed him.

"These officers fought through getting pepper sprayed. This is

a feat in itself," said Campbell.

The suspect then pulled a 12-inch knife he had concealed in his pants and turned to face the officers, raising the knife in a threatening manner and telling the officers to shoot him.

One of the officers was able to deploy their CEW for a third time, this time temporarily incapacitating the man and ultimately he was taken into custody.

Brittany Anne Manning, 18, and Erik Richard Couronne, 22, were both arrested and charged.



University of Calgary researcher Deinera Exner-Cortens led a new study showing that teens who experience dating violence are more likely to experience abuse from future partners. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

## 'It's time to break cycle'

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

### Violent teen relationships linked to later abuse in study



**Jennifer Friesen**  
For Metro | Calgary

When it comes to domestic violence, Deinera Exner-Cortens says it's time to break the cycle where it starts.

The University of Calgary researcher has released her latest study linking violence during adolescent relationships to an increased likelihood of domestic violence for adults.

When Exner-Cortens began her work seven years ago, she noticed that, although the link had been widely discussed, there was previously no data to back it up.

"From an advocacy standpoint, it's really important for us to show that dating violence has long-term impacts on health and wellbeing," she said. "We know this as practitioners, but we had to prove that with research so we could advocate for prevention and policy and funding in order to stop dating violence before it starts."

Using a sample of 2,161 male and female American youth from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult

Health, Exner-Cortens and her team analyzed their long-term experiences with violence.

For this study, the respondents were very similar in upbringing to control for other risk factors that might lead to future domestic violence.

Participants were first interviewed when they were between the ages 12 and 18, and then twice more: five and 12 years later.

Over one year, 19 per cent of the teenaged respondents said they had experienced dating violence. During the review five years later it was found that the women who were in violent relationships as

teens were 1.5 times more likely to have been victimized by a partner again, and the men were twice as likely.

"What this study is saying is that prevention needs to start a lot sooner," said Exner-Cortens. "We really need to take adolescent romantic relationships seriously."

In response, she's been looking at primary prevention "or stopping it before it starts," she said. Through school programs she's been collaborating with community partners to teach teens what a healthy relationship looks like, and what dangers to watch for.

"This is a critical piece of preventing future violence," she said. "And if we want to do that, we really have to put our resources into supporting adolescent capacities and strengths."

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# Addiction not a choice: Expert

HEALTH

**Compassion, not judgment needed, says professor**



**Elizabeth Cameron**  
For Metro | Calgary

Changing the way we think about addiction would change the way treatment and rehabilitation services are funded, according to an assistant professor of social work at Mount Royal University.

"Many people fail to understand that addiction is actually a secondary disease that arises from trauma of various types," said Peter Choate, who has four decades of experience as a social worker and a PhD in addictions.

Addiction is a mental and biological issue called substance abuse disorder, according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

People who have experienced trauma use substances to numb their pain and Choate argues our response needs to be compassion, not judgement.



**Research has proved there's a significant and complex link between trauma and substance-abuse disorder, commonly referred to as addiction.** JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

"Historically, we have seen people with substance abuse problems as morally deficient or weak, that they just need to make a different choice," Choate said. "The overriding theme (in their life) becomes the moral judgement associated with having been an addict."

He believes people with sub-

stance use disorder deserve the same standard of health care as those with depression, cardiac disease, or those who are injured in a car crash because they were distracted at the wheel.

Research backs up Choate's main point: addiction is an issue of trauma and biology, not a

choice.

A 2014 toolkit for trauma-informed care from the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse states "the experience of trauma is commonly associated with substance abuse ... treatment providers must help people make the connections between their experience of

**"The overriding theme (in their life) becomes the moral judgement associated with having been an addict."**

Peter Choate

trauma and their problematic substance use or mental health concerns."

Dr. David Swann, a vocal advocate for those with substance use disorder, said the stigma of addiction is alive and well in Alberta.

"Any other loss of life like this associated with another disease would have mobilized a lot more coordinated and sufficient resources," the Alberta Liberal Party leader said, and added the way we perceive addiction is a barrier that discourages people from coming forward with their struggles and asking for help.

"Families are going into hiding, instead of shouting from the rooftops that this is affecting all of us," he said.

ROAD RAGE

## Crowbar suspect charged



**Matt Kieltka**  
Metro | Edmonton

The man accused of assaulting a woman with a crowbar, breaking both her arms, in a road rage incident Tuesday has been charged with attempted murder.

Edmonton police announced Thursday that a suspect, 28-year-old Jared Matthew Eliasson, has been arrested and faces several charges, including attempt to commit murder, possessing an offensive weapon dangerous to the public and aggravated assault.

He remains in custody.

The woman, 34, honked when she approached a silver Pontiac Wave stopped in the eastbound lane, before passing the car. It is alleged the suspect vehicle followed her and when she stopped and exited her car, the male suspect ran up to her and struck both her arms with a crowbar.

Police spokesperson Scott Pattison said it appeared the woman was injured trying to defend herself.



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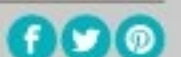
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# Opportunity arises for grades fix

## EDUCATION

### Curriculum rewrite may be key to ending mark disparity



**Lucie Edwardson**  
Metro | Calgary

Alberta's former diploma examination director says grade inflation "has been going on for some time" but says it's become exacerbated in the last year.

Tim Coates, who was the diploma examination director from 2007-2015, said that since the shift last year from a 50/50 school work and diploma exam weight to a 70/30 school work and diploma exam weight, grade inflation has become more obvious.

"If there's grade inflation and it was there at 50 per cent it's more of an obvious problem when you now have 70 per cent of the mark that could very well be inflated," he said.

Alberta Education said there aren't currently any plans to alter the diploma exams, but

announced in December that math diplomas will have a written portion beginning in the 2018/19 school year.

Earlier this week, Metro reported on how a local education advocacy group, Kids Come First, analyzed data from the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Alberta Education and found grade inflation in math to be a big issue within CBE schools.

By Grade 12, they saw a high percentage of students in certain schools that received passing classroom marks in math, but failed the diploma exam. Three CBE high schools had more than 40 per cent of students in that category, two schools had more than 30 per cent, and four schools had more than 20 per cent.

"It needs to be emphasized that it's not every teacher. There are many teachers who are making a great effort to meet provincial standards," said Coates.

Coates said based on curriculum, teachers are supposed to teach many of the same things

to their students.

"Then, when you see very profound differences in how two classes perform on the examination, where the exam average is 65 and one class had an in-school average of 68 and the other 83 — then you need to look across at those two classes and say we have a common measure here with a common degree of achievement, so why is there this gap between these two classes?" he asked.

Coates said Alberta Education can address the issue while rewriting

Alberta's school curriculums "to make sure that curriculum standards are clearly demonstrated."

The province said not only will provincial assessments be developed to align with the new curriculum, but standard documents will also be developed to help teachers understand how Alberta Education will be assessing students.

**There are many teachers who are making a great effort to meet provincial standards.**

Tim Coates

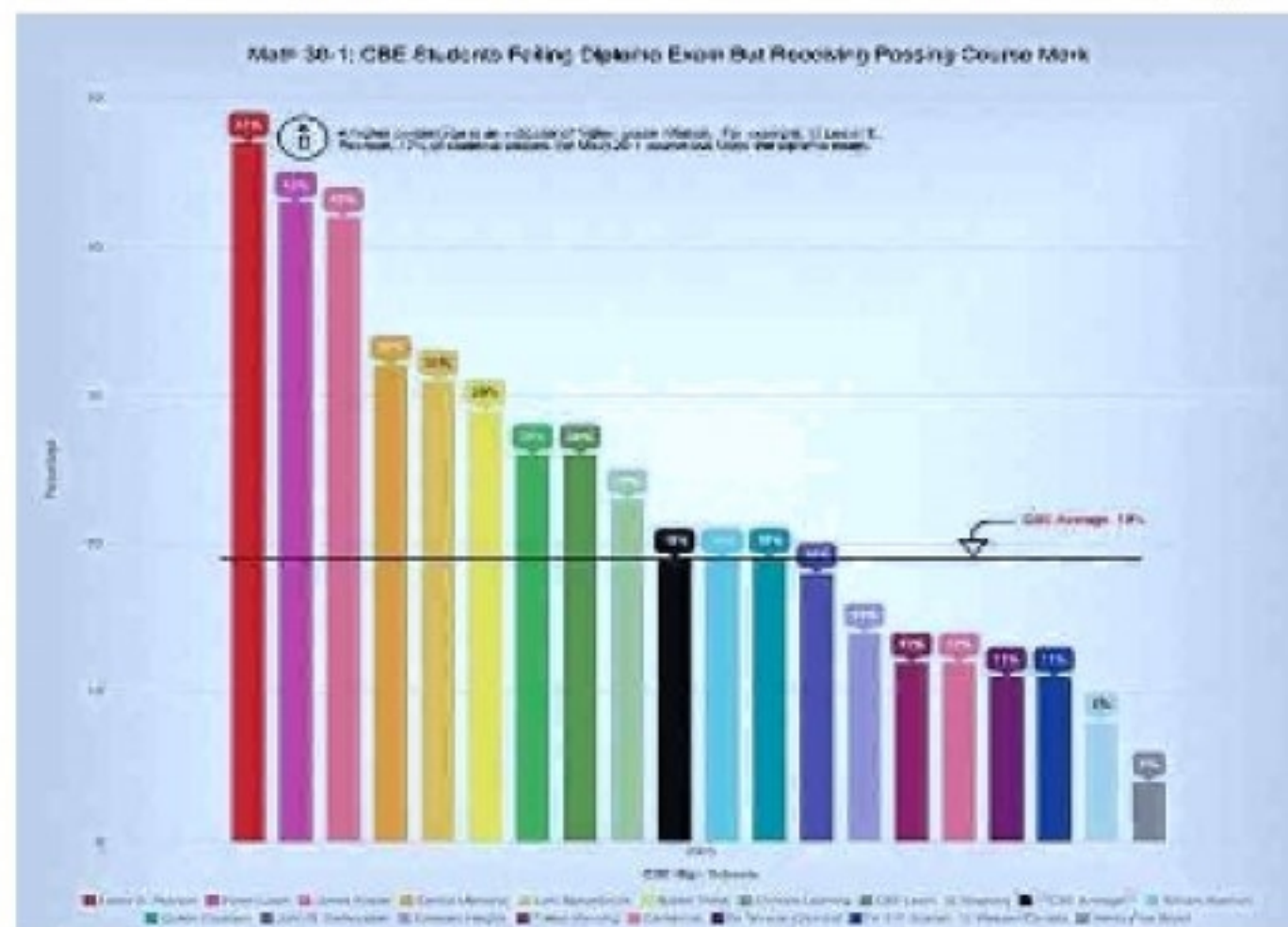
"Professional Development will also be offered through the Alberta Regional Consortia to assist teachers. We are making these changes to prepare our students for success," said Al-

berta Education.

When it comes to large discrepancies between in-class averages and performance on diplomas or PATs, Alberta Education said there is no formal review

mechanism for different assessment systems.

"School authorities are in the best position to meet local needs and expectations around in-school assessments," they said.







Tammy Sherrow said Alberta has a high number of premature births compared to the rest of the country, which contributes to our infant mortality rate. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

# Worry over infant rates

## HEALTHCARE

### Mortality stats show province above national averages



Elizabeth Cameron  
For Metro | Calgary

Alberta has the fifth-highest number of infant deaths in the country, according to the latest data from Statistics Canada, but that didn't surprise Tammy Sherrow, an associate professor of nursing at Mount Royal University.

"Alberta has always ranked in the top third of the provinces for infant mortality," said Sherrow, who has more than 30 years of nursing experience, specifically in neonatal and child health.

The data, published Thursday, calculates each province's infant mortality rate (IMR) based on deaths per 1,000 live births — Alberta's IMR rate is 5.3, above the national average of 4.9.

Some of the biggest contributors to IMR's are premature births, low birth weight, congenital defects, and infections, Sherrow said.

Alberta has a premature birth rate of 8.33 per 1,000 live births, according to the latest data available from the province.

"A lot of those premature babies can be kept alive by

more advanced neonatal care and technology, but might later succumb to death, which is often in that first month," she explained.

The research tells us that some of the contributing factors are increasing maternal age, multiple births such as twins or triplets, and advances in technology, according to Sherrow.

"With an increase in maternal age, you have the risk of multiple births, prematurity, or what we call low birth weight," she said, pointing to advances in conception technologies as one reason more women are having babies later in life.



**We need to consider our most vulnerable.**

Tammy Sherrow

Another possible explanation is that more women are choosing to finish their education and have a career before they have children, Sherrow said.

She said there are certain populations in Alberta with higher IMR than others, citing indigenous children as an example.

"If we are looking at trying to improve our rates, I think we need to consider our most vulnerable populations — that's where we could make the biggest impact," Sherrow said.

## EXEMPTIONS

# Calls to give bingo halls fresh tax break



Brodie Thomas  
Metro | Calgary

Coun. Andre Chabot is again asking his council colleagues to give the city's three bingo halls a tax break.

Last year the idea was rejected at the committee level, but he and Couns. Gian-Carlo Carra and Ray Jones were able to get the council behind the idea.

"I think council saw the wisdom in what I was doing and who ultimately it was benefiting — it was benefiting not-for-profit organizations," said Chabot.

Bingo halls don't operate like for-profit casinos, but instead partner with community organizations and sports teams, which get the proceeds of the games.

Eric Koo, a volunteer coordinator with the University of Calgary Athletics Club said bingo

is one of two main fundraisers for his group.

Their volunteers go to the hall and work one eight-hour shift once a month, and they see the proceeds from that shift.

Chabot said the groups that get charitable tax exemption from the province are spelled out under the Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER).

He feels the bingo halls should qualify. Although there are some for-profit compo-

nents of the bingo halls, such as concession sales, he said it's easy to break that out at an accounting level.

The provincial government is reviewing COPTER sometime this month, and the city has lobbied the province to make amendments for bingo halls.

"They just haven't passed any of that legislation yet, so until they do, we're stuck having to resolve this," said Chabot.

He said the cost could be in the \$80,000 to \$100,000 range.

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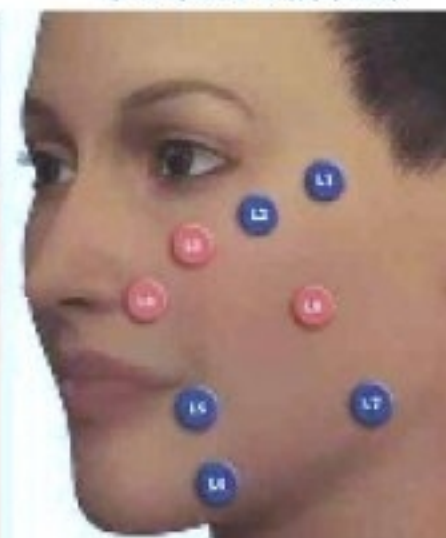


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**Luc Sinal, president of the MRU Student Aviation Executive, says the Aviation Career Expo is a great networking opportunity for students.** HELEN PIKE/METRO

# Aviation career fair a go despite fatal crash

EXPO

**'We should do it for two very good reasons... Jeff and Reyn'**



**Helen Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

It's a flight plan still in motion. Despite a deadly crash that took two aviation instructors' lives, the Mount Royal community has decided to press on with their fourth annual Aviation Career Expo.

"We talked about it in our team to see whether or not we should put it on or not, and someone said we should do it for two very good reasons," said Leon Cygman the Chair of the Mount Royal University Aviation program. "Those reasons were Jeff and Reyn."

He said the instructors were passionate about flying, interested in the program and committed the end of their careers

to MRU, which is why Cygman said the school felt they owed it to the late-pilots to bring the passion they felt to students.

Cygman said aviation students enter the workforce with low flight-hours and need any chance they can get to build them up and be up to snuff for the bigger commercial airlines. He said outfits like Air Canada are doing just fine, they have pools of pilots to pull from, but other airlines like Jazz interviewed 60 people this month just to keep up.

Cygman said confidence in the MRU aviation program hasn't faltered since the plane crash. He hasn't seen a single application dropped, or current student bow out. But the expo is an opportunity to continue to dispel incorrect information about the crash and investigation.

He will be at the MRU aviation booth answering questions, and he's expecting curious enthusiasts, as he's already been approached by so-called crash experts with advice.

"I'm sure there are going to be questions about what happened," Cygman said. "The more correct information we get out

there, rather than people working on rumours and innuendos, it improves situations for us."

Luc Sinal, president of the MRU Student Aviation Executive said the expo is something he looks forward to as an opportunity to get his name out there.

"It's a great networking start," Sinal said. "There's so many representatives for so many different airlines."

The idea of going back to business as usual, and concentrating on his and his classmate's careers, is a comfort for students because he said it's what their instructors would have wanted.

"Both Jeff and Reyn had such a passion for aviation they would want us to continue our passion," Sinal said. "Just to continue striving to do what we want to do."

The expo will be held March 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with an entry fee of \$5 — it's free for students. There will be 18 vendors ready to give visitors a taste of the aviation industry. There will be mock interviews, and simulator evaluations to get people ready for airline careers.

For more information visit [mtroyal.ca/aviationexpo](http://mtroyal.ca/aviationexpo).

FORT MCMURRAY

# Mounties say man not seen since wildfire located safe

A man whose family said they hadn't seen him since a wildfire forced the evacuation of Fort McMurray last May has been found alive and well.

Last week, Alberta RCMP asked for help finding Charles Bastien, who they said was reported to have been living in a camp

outside Fort McMurray but hadn't contacted his family since the massive fire.

Cpl. Erika Laird says investigators have located him and he is safe, but wouldn't give any other details due to privacy.

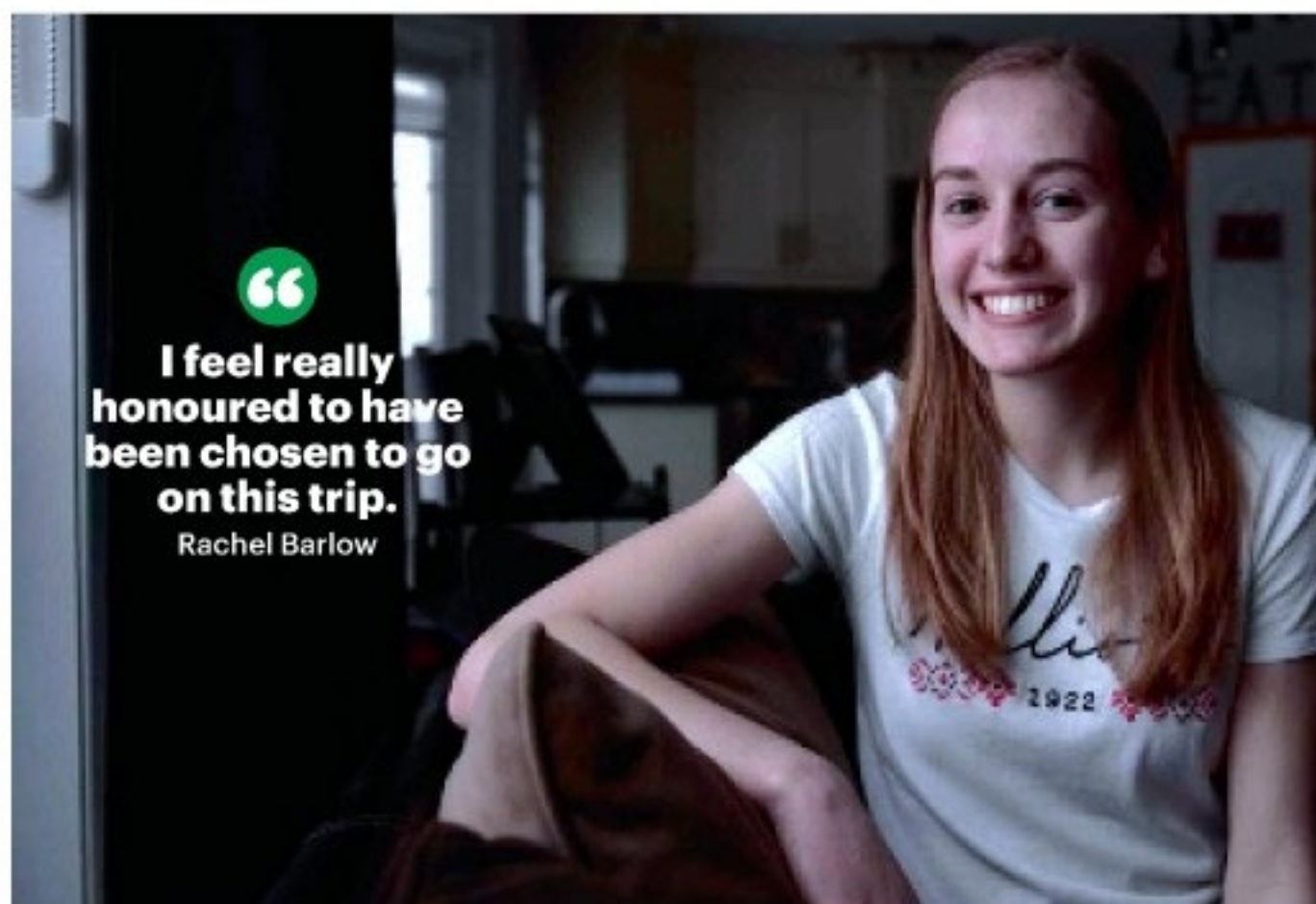
She says they spoke to people who had contact with Bastien

since the evacuation and they said he made it out safely. But police still didn't know where the 55-year-old was until Thursday.

The wildfire forced the evacuation of 80,000 people and approximately 2,400 structures were damaged or destroyed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS





**“I feel really honoured to have been chosen to go on this trip.”**  
Rachel Barlow

Rachel Barlow is one of the 17 Canadian students receiving the 2017 Vimy Pilgrimage Award.  
JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

# Teen chosen to make pilgrimage

## HISTORY

### 15-year-old Rachel Barlow will travel to Vimy Ridge



Lucie Edwardson  
Metro | Calgary

A Calgary student was chosen from hundreds of applicants as the winner of the national Vimy Pilgrimage Award.

Alongside 16 other Canadian students, Bishop Carroll High School student, Rachel Barlow, has been chosen to take a fully funded, week-long educational program in France and Belgium to study Canada's efforts in the First World War.

"I feel really honoured to have been chosen to go on this trip," said Barlow, who

will be travelling outside of North America for the first time in April for the Vimy trip.

Once there the students will visit First World War battlefields, cemeteries and memorials including the Canadian National Vimy memorial.

Barlow said she is most looking forward to visiting the memorial and standing on the actual battlefield, but said she's been inspired while learning about Canada's effort in the war.

"It's helped me come to the realization of how much Canada helped out in First World War and what a great country we are," she said. "We volunteered to go — we didn't have to, and we had a really big impact on the war."

The Vimy Foundation said Barlow was chosen because at just 15, she's demonstrated "selfless leadership beyond her years."

"While enrolled at Connect

Charter School, Rachel assisted younger students by serving as a peer mentor," they said.

Further, following a devastating sports injury where Barlow broke her femur; she chose to give back to the Alberta Children's Hospital where she had made a successful recovery.

"With a goal of raising \$10,000, Rachel set off on her bike to pedal the width of Alberta from border to border. Seven days, 561 kilometres and \$11,540 in donations later, Rachel was standing on the Alberta/Saskatchewan border," said the foundation.

Vimy foundation executive director, Jeremy Diamond said students will learn that the Battle of Vimy wasn't simply a First World War battle, but Canada's coming of age.

"It was a seminal moment in our history, a victory that helped give us our own voice around the world," he said.

## CHARITY

### President of YMCA resigns

The president and CEO of YMCA Calgary is stepping down after nine years on the job, according to a news release issued by the charity Thursday.

Helene Weir will no longer be at the helm of the 115-year-old organization — effective May 6 — but she isn't leaving the YMCA family. Weir is bound for YMCA USA as vice-president of the Large YMCA

Resource Group.

Weir began her career with the YMCA in Edmonton in 1983. After various placements, including one at the Valley of the Sun YMCA in Phoenix, Arizona, and the Westport Weston Family YMCA in Westport Connecticut, she became the president and CEO of YMCA Calgary in 2008.

Her leadership saw two

community facilities successfully open: the Saddletowne and South Health Campus YMCAs, the latter of which was the first YMCA to be built in conjunction with an Alberta hospital.

According to Calgary YMCA, the Nomination and Board Governance committee of their Board of Directors will begin a national search for a new leader. METRO

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# 'My daughter in every way'

## IMMIGRATION

### Refugee trying to reunite with daughter left behind in China

In the early morning of March 28, 1997, Zuan Zhong and his wife heard crying at their doorway and found a baby girl in a red jumpsuit in a basket.

A red slip tucked under the newborn stated the baby's birth date and begged the family to look after the girl like their own because her biological parents could not afford to have another child in the household under China's then one-child policy.

The couple took the girl in, named her Shanrong and raised her without telling her she had been abandoned.

"I picked up the baby and she immediately stopped crying. It's a new life in my hand and I couldn't abandon her again," said Zhong, 45, now a Toronto resident. "Although we are not related by blood, she is my daughter in every way, in my flesh. She is an inseparable



China strictly controlled reproduction under its former one-child limit per couple policy. Immigration officials are not allowing a girl who was abandoned and raised by another family to reunite with her father in Canada, as they are not biologically related. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

part of the family."

However, Shanrong, now 20, is not part of the family according to Canadian immigration officials at the Hong Kong visa post, which refused to let the girl join him in Canada because a DNA test showed they're not biologically related.

Despite stacks of family photos since Shanrong was a

baby, her school records and personal ID listing the couple as her parents, the Immigration Department refused to reconsider the decision.

"A family cannot be just defined by your DNA," said lawyer Avvy Go of the Metro Toronto Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic, who successfully appealed against the visa offi-

cer's decision.

Zhong, a Catholic, fled China to Canada seven years ago and was granted asylum in 2013 on the grounds of religious persecution. He applied for permanent resident status the same year and included his wife and Shanrong as family members in the application.

In rejecting the visa post's

**A family cannot be just defined by your DNA.**

Avvy Go

decision, Federal Court Justice Keith Boswell said the officer had overlooked a Chinese government's certificate about the couple's relationship with the girl. "It unequivocally states that: the applicant was abandoned; has been living with Mr. Zhong and (his wife) since she was found; is a registered member in the household; and is in a de facto adoptive family relationship."

Zhong, who has not seen his wife and daughter since he fled China in 2010, was thrilled with the news but wonders how much longer it will take for his family to join him in Canada.

"The court has given us a new ray of hope, but there is still no guarantee the next visa officer will let Shanrong come," said Zhong. Both Zhong and Go hope the Immigration Department can fast-track the case.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## MONTREAL

### President of Cora restaurants kidnapped

A man kidnapped at gunpoint under mysterious circumstances from his home near Montreal and later released is the president of the Cora breakfast restaurant chain, the company confirmed Thursday.

Nicholas Tsoufidis was nabbed Wednesday night in Mirabel, north of Montreal.

A passerby found the bound businessman in a ditch in Laval.

The witness told Montreal radio station 98.5 FM the victim didn't appear to know where he was and repeatedly stated he'd been kidnapped.

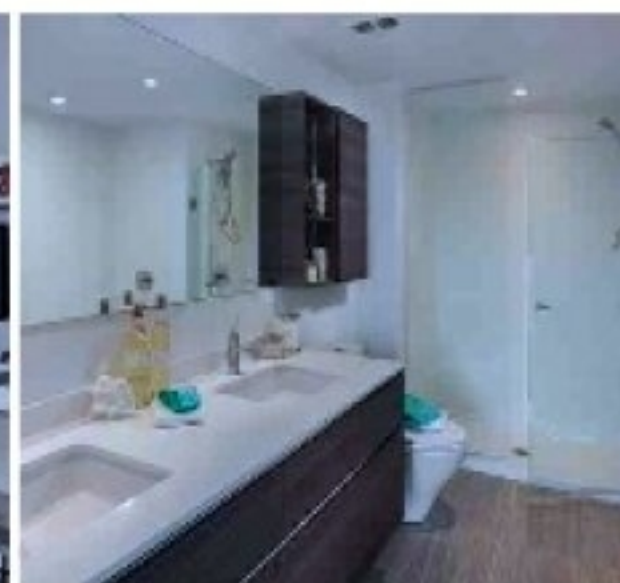
Quebec provincial police spokesman Sgt. Claude Denis said the victim was taken to hospital as a preventive measure.

Lucie Normandin, vice-president of the Cora Group, said it will be up to police to determine why Tsoufidis, 44, was kidnapped.

"Nicholas is fine," Normandin, adding she'd just spoken to him. "Like the news said, he was kidnapped and he was released. Someone found him."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## ASYLUM

## Canada urged to help those who sheltered Snowden

Lawyers for three families who sheltered Edward Snowden in Hong Kong say they have formally asked the Canadian government to grant them asylum.

They issued a statement Thursday saying that the families want to move to Canada because they face persecution in Hong Kong.

Snowden fled to Hong Kong to avoid prosecution over the leak of classified material about the U.S. government's surveillance programs.

A congressional inquiry into the former U.S. National Security Agency contractor concluded that he compromised national security by the leaks.

The families have been publicly quoted as saying they hid Snowden in their apartments for weeks in 2013 before he went to Russia.

Immigration Minister Ahmed Hussen's office did not immediately respond to an email on the matter.

A statement posted on the

website of "For the Refugees," a group set up to help the families, said it's critical for Canada to act quickly.

"These families, including three young and stateless children, face persecution in Hong Kong and in their home countries," the statement said.

"We are encouraged by Prime Minister Trudeau's commitment in taking a clear lead internationally in welcoming refugees," Canadian lawyer Marc-Andre Seguin said in the statement.

"It's up to Canada now to do the right thing," he said.

The lawyers said they filed refugee claims in January and are calling on Hussen to do what he can to speed up the applications.

Snowden remains in exile in Russia. He has been charged with espionage in the U.S. and could face 30 years in prison.

His lawyer has said he wants to return to the United States, if he could be guaranteed a fair trial.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Store employees, media, and supporters are seen outside the Cannabis Culture store on Church Street during a police raid in Toronto on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Pot activists charged after stores raided

## LEGALIZATION

### The Emerys own the Cannabis Culture brand across Canada

Prominent marijuana activists Marc and Jodie Emery were charged with multiple drug-related offences in Toronto on Thursday after police in several cities raided pot dispensaries associated with the couple.

The self-styled "Prince" and "Princess of Pot" were arrested at Toronto's Pearson International Airport on Wednesday evening. They appeared briefly in a courtroom on Thursday afternoon before police announced the full list of charges they faced.

Marc Emery faces 15 counts, including conspiracy to commit an indictable offence, trafficking, possession for the purpose of trafficking, and possession of proceeds of crime, while Jodie Emery is charged with five similar counts. The couple's Toronto lawyer said his clients were expected to appear in court Friday.

"My clients were uncertain of

what they'd been arrested for," Jack Lloyd said outside court on Thursday. "They're in good spirits ... hopeful that we can have a productive bail hearing tomorrow."

In Vancouver, another lawyer for the couple said they plan to fight the charges.

"We've been fighting this battle an awfully long time. And we're going to fight it right to the end. And I expect we're going to be victorious," said Kirk Tousaw.

Jodie Emery mouthed the words "I love you" to her husband during the couple's brief court appearance and flashed a peace sign to supporters in the room before being admonished by the justice of the peace.

The Emerys own the Cannabis Culture brand, which is used by a chain of 19 marijuana dispensaries in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec.

Toronto police spokesman Mark Pugash said seven Cannabis Culture locations — five in Toronto, one in Hamilton and another in Vancouver — were searched on Thursday along with two homes in Toronto, one in Stoney Creek, Ont., and one in Vancouver.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### GENETIC NON-DISCRIMINATION BILL

#### Justice minister asking Supreme Court for advice

Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould wants the Supreme Court of Canada to advise on the constitutionality of a bill aimed at preventing genetic discrimination.

The bill got final approval Wednesday when more than 100 Liberal

backbenchers rejected warnings from Wilson-Raybould and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau that the legislation is unconstitutional because it intrudes on provincial jurisdiction. A breach of the proposed law would result in a fine of up to \$1 million, or five years behind bars. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# GOP versus Obamacare

## MEDICAL AID

### Big differences between new health care bill, previous laws

At first glance, the health care bill from House Republicans appears to have similarities to the Obama-era law, such as tax credits, protections for people with health problems and the ability of parents to keep young adults on their insurance.

But in most cases, those components would work very differently under the GOP framework than is now the case with the Affordable Care Act.

Important details about the Republican plan are unknown, including cost and coverage. Here's a look at the current law and the GOP's plan:

#### 1 COVERAGE

**Current law:** About 11 million people are covered by expanded Medicaid in the 31 states that accepted it. Nationwide, an additional 12 million buy private health insurance



House Speaker Paul Ryan uses charts and graphs to make his case for the GOP's long-awaited plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, Thursday, during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

through government-sponsored markets that offer plans with subsidized premiums. The national uninsured rate is below 9 per cent, a historic low.

**GOP bill:** Extent of coverage is unknown, as is the impact on the uninsured rate.

#### 2 PRIVATE COVERAGE

**Current law:** Provides income-based tax credits for consumers buying government-regulated plans through HealthCare.gov and state insurance markets. The most generous assistance goes to people with low-to-modest incomes. Many solid

middle-class households get no help despite sharp increases in premiums.

**GOP bill:** Provides tax credits primarily based on age, gradually phasing down for individuals making more than \$75,000, or married couples earning more than \$150,000.

Credits can be used to buy any state-licensed health plan. More middle-class consumers will benefit, but there's concern lower-income people would be disadvantaged.

#### 3 COST

**Current law:** Coverage costs of about \$1.4 trillion from 2017-2026, based on Congressional Budget Office estimates.

**GOP bill:** Unknown at this time; Republican aides say CBO numbers are coming.

#### 4 PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS

**Current law:** Forbids insurers from turning people down on account of medical problems, or charging them more money.

**GOP bill:** Provides protection for people with health problems. But consumers who have not maintained continuous insurance coverage face a 30 per cent premium penalty for a year. States can use federal funds to set up high-risk pools as insurers of last result.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## TRAVEL

### New ban faces legal challenge

Legal challenges against U.S. President Donald Trump's revised travel ban mounted Thursday as Washington state said it would renew its request to block the executive order.

It came a day after Hawaii launched its own lawsuit, and Washington state Attorney General Bob Ferguson said both Oregon and New York had asked to join his state's legal action. Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey said the state is joining fellow states in challenging the revised travel ban.

Washington was the first state to sue over the original ban, which resulted in Judge James Robart in Seattle halting its implementation around the country.

Trump's revised ban bars new visas for people from six predominantly Muslim countries: Somalia, Iran, Syria, Sudan, Libya and Yemen. It also temporarily shuts down the U.S. refugee program.

Unlike the initial order, the new one says current visa holders won't be affected.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Society's norms at risk in Trump's America

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD  
From the U.S.



This week provided an excellent excuse to remember Donald Trump's egregious treatment of women. His pussy-grabbing claims and alleged sexual assaults. His attacks on women's looks. His indifference-turned-hostility to reproductive rights. His insistence that women in the military are to blame for their own sexual assaults.

Thank International

Women's Day for these helpful memory jolts, in case you'd forgotten it all amidst the political deluge, these 60 days of news cycles that feel as if we're living in a dump, staring up at the sky each morning wondering what stained mattress will fall next and how much it'll hurt.

Trump's election to the White House was a stunning example of the shredding of political norms in the U.S. — those guidelines of conduct and character that offered, at the very least, the facade of respectability. Norms that might not

keep behaviour in check, but which, when discovered to have been violated, could once still ruin a politician's career.

But what about societal norms? Pluralism and the idea that we treat everyone equally are at risk. We're seeing it in the increased bomb threats against Jewish community centres in Canada and the U.S., and in threats against Muslim mosques. We're seeing it in the murder of Srinivas Kuchibhotla in Kansas by a white man who'd asked if he was in the U.S. illegally.

Then there's the bizarre stories of U.S. border guards adopting a Trumpian approach to their jobs, opting for antagonism and suspicion over routine guidelines for who should and shouldn't be let in: turning away a Canadian woman hoping for a spa day in the U.S., detaining an Australian and a French author for making routine trips to give speeches, and detaining a Sudanese green-card-holding grad student with handcuffs at JFK airport.

Much has been said of how Trump's new executive order

on immigration compares to the last, but that debate ignores the fundamental shift already in place, a shift away from dependable rules, and toward inexplicable randomness. Even my white, green-card holding Canadian friend is cancelling a trip back home this summer, because why risk being turned away at the border?

In his campaign, Trump used America First as an economic message (ignoring the slogan's anti-Semitic history). But it's being heard as a much broader call to arms against everything

and everyone perceived un-American. It carries the underlying arrogance that everyone who's not American wishes they were, de facto demonizing all travellers to the U.S., that race and religion are good indicators of what America looks like.

These ideologies are spreading from Trump outwards. They are emboldening prejudice. As worried as people may be about what kind of politics will survive this presidency, another crucial question to ask is, what kind of society?

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**HUNGARY ASYLUM SEEKERS TO BE DETAINED** In this Sept. 24, 2015 photo a man carries a child to board a train at a station near the village of Zakany, Hungary. UNICEF, the United Nations' children's agency, says it is alarmed by a new Hungarian law allowing the detention of all asylum seekers, including unaccompanied children older than 14, in border camps made of shipping containers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

DUESSELDORF

## Many injured in axe attack at German station

A man was arrested after injuring seven people with an axe at the main train station in Duesseeldorf, Germany on Thursday in what appeared to be a random attack, police said.

Officers were alerted about an attack shortly before 9 p.m., prompting a large-scale police response.

"A person, probably armed with an axe, attacked people at random," police said in a statement. Seven people were

injured, three of them seriously. The statement said police are investigating whether the suspect attacked passengers on a commuter train as well.

The suspected attacker was arrested after jumping off an overpass near the train station, the statement said.

The 36-year-old man, described as being from "the former Yugoslavia" and living in the nearby city of Wuppertal, suffered serious injuries and was being treated in a

hospital.

"The suspect appears to have had psychological problems," police said.

An axe was recovered and officers were searching the area in and around the station, which was closed for the investigation. Police withdrew an earlier report that a second person had been arrested, saying later that they were working on the assumption the man had acted alone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### + SECURITY

**German authorities have heightened security measures following a series of attacks in public places over the past year.**

Last July, a 17-year-old Afghan asylum-seeker injured five people with an axe and a knife. The attack was later claimed by Daesh.

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# Lawyer's pants on fire during court

MIAMI

## Attorney argued client's car spontaneously combusted

A Miami defence attorney is feeling the heat after his pants caught fire Wednesday after he told jurors during arguments in an arson case that his client's car spontaneously combusted and wasn't intentionally set.

As he started speaking to the jury, Stephen Gutierrez, 28, said he noticed his pocket began to feel hot.

"When I checked my pocket, I noticed that the heat was coming from a small e-cigarette battery I had in my pocket," Gutierrez told The Associated Press via email on Thursday afternoon. He said he had two to three of the batteries in his right pocket.

The Miami Herald reported Gutierrez was arguing that his client's car spontaneously combusted and wasn't intentionally set on fire.

Gutierrez said he quickly left

the courtroom and went to a courthouse bathroom.

"I was able to toss the battery in water after it singed my pocket open," he said.

Gutierrez said the incident was not staged. "No one thinks that a battery left in their pocket is somehow going to 'explode,'" he wrote.

The lawyer ran out of the courtroom and the judge also had the jurors taken to the jury room.

When Gutierrez returned to the courtroom unharmed, he insisted it wasn't a staged defence gone wrong. Later in the day his client, Claudy Charles, 48, was convicted of second-degree arson.

Prosecutors and the Miami-Dade police are investigating the incident. Investigators seized frayed e-cigarette batteries as evidence.

Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Michael Hanzman also could decide to hold Gutierrez in contempt of court.

Gutierrez told the AP that he researched e-cigarette batteries and learned that they can be "extremely dangerous."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Take notice that on March 31st, 2017 at 9:30 AM o'clock in the forenoon; a hearing will take place in the Family and Youth Court, located at the Calgary Court Centre, 601, 5th St. S.W. in the City of Calgary, in the Province of Alberta. A Director under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for a Temporary Guardianship Order on a matter in which you are interested. You are requested to be present at the hearing, by order of the Court, your whereabouts being unknown, substitutional service of notice of this hearing was ordered by publication of one notice in this newspaper. You have the right to be represented by legal counsel. An order may be made in your absence in accordance with the practice of the Court.

Contact: Mar-Nai Yellowhorn  
Siksika Children's Services  
Calgary, Alberta  
Telephone: (403) 272-6004



A mother and son explore a Lego city created by professional builder Jason Spears. The company has seen considerable sales growth since 2015, with a projected 75 billion Lego pieces being sold in 2016 across 140 countries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Global demand building for Lego

## FINANCES

### Danish toy maker reports 6% increase in revenue

Danish toy maker Lego says its famous coloured toy blocks were in high demand in most regions last year, helping its full year revenue increase 6 per cent to 37.9 billion kroner (\$5.4 billion US), the highest figure in the company's 85-year history.

The privately-held group's net profit rose to 9.4 billion kroner (\$1.3 billion US) from 9.2 billion kroner in 2015.

CEO Bali Padda said Thursday that he was "satisfied" with

Lego's performance, adding that sales growth in the last six months of 2016 "was at more sustainable levels than previous years."

The toy maker was "encouraged" by sales in Europe, saw "strong potential" in China but sales were flat in U.S. markets.

"We will continue to work closely with our retail partners to identify new opportunities to innovate, drive growth and engage children in this important market," said Padda.

A British citizen, Padda took over on Jan. 1 from Joergen Vig Knudstorp, Lego's chief executive for the previous 12 years. The Dane, who in 2004 became the first non-family member to head the group, is credited with making the company profitable again.

# \$1.3B

The Danish toy maker reports that its net profits rose by 1.3 billion since 2015.

"Innovation is critical to our success and each year around 60 per cent of our portfolio is new products," Padda said. The group said that, on the whole, about 75 billion Lego pieces were sold in 2016 in more than 140 countries.

The group, based in western Denmark, has more than 19,000 employees around the world. It does not release quarterly figures.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Business digest

## GOVERNMENT

### Billions in infrastructure funds missing

The parliamentary budget watchdog says it can't find billions in new infrastructure spending that is supposed to be in key federal spending projections released this month.

Estimates for the next 12 months were supposed to include \$8 billion in new infrastructure spending, but budget officer Jean-Denis Frechette says the documents only show \$5.5 billion in infrastructure allocations.

Thursday's report lists multiple reasons for the missing \$2.5 billion, including that the Liberals may defer some intended spending to future years.

The report is the latest in a series of studies from the PBO that have raised critical questions about an infrastructure program that is supposed to be a pillar of the government's economic growth strategy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## INVESTMENT

### Banks launch program to help smaller businesses

Canada's biggest banks and other financial institutions have launched a fund of up to \$1 billion over 10 years to help small- and medium-sized companies access capital to grow their businesses.

The fund, which will be financed by the private sector and aims to fill the gap between investors and the public markets, will start at \$500 million for the first year.

If demand is strong and it performs well, the amount could be increased to \$1 billion over the nine years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

## SUCKER-PUNCHING SUPERBUGS

**Here's a sentence you never want to hear in the hospital:** 'It's a superbug, and we're out of drugs to try.' Especially after a sick loved one has suffered through round after round of antibiotics, with gruesome side effects but no improvement. Superbugs are bacterial infections impervious to our most powerful medications. And they're on the rise. But a team of researchers at McMaster University has found a glimmer of hope in the fight against them, thanks to a very old drug.

### How did they do it?

By taking a moonshot. Dr. Eric Brown and his team tested 1,440 drugs with expired patents (read: cheap drugs) against three of the gnarliest superbugs, both in a dish in the lab and in living mice. They found one that worked: **pentamidine**, a drug used since the 1930s to fight parasites.

### Who are the bacterial bad guys?

The treatment crushed two scary superbugs:

**Acinetobacter baumannii** causes wound infections, UTIs, blood poisoning, meningitis and pneumonia.

**Enterobacteria**, a large group that includes **serratia**, is a UTI and wound-infection causing bug that likes to grow in damp, wet places. Unfortunately, that includes medical devices like catheters.

It also showed some promise against **Pseudomonas aeruginosa**, which, among other things, causes pneumonia in people with cystic fibrosis.

### Why did it work?

The three superbugs in this study all belong to a group called **gram-negative bacteria**, which have a tough outer shell. Because of that shell, few antibiotics work on them to begin with. So when they become antibiotic-resistant, it really spells trouble. The scientists found that pentamidine punches holes in bacteria's shells, so when it's given in combination with antibiotics — which normally wouldn't work — the superbugs didn't stand a chance.

### So is the problem fixed?

Not even close. The drug combination will have side-effects, and it hasn't been tried in humans yet. However, Brown speculated that doctors might start trying pentamidine pretty soon: When you're dealing with a superbug, there's not a whole lot to lose.

### FINDINGS

#### Your week in science



### MONSTROUS CONTROVERSY

The ultra-weird Tully Monster didn't have a backbone, says a new paleontology paper. The authors of a 2016 study who thought they saw a spine were actually looking at a gut, the paper claims. The 300 million-year-old species looks like a cross between a lobster, hammerhead shark and worm.

### TIMELESS MATTER

It's a mind-bending finding, confirmed by peer review: **Time crystals**, which vibrate without energy and have a structure that repeats itself in space and in time, are real.

### SOUND SMART



### DEFINITION

An **extremophile** is a living thing, usually a micro-organism like bacteria, that has adapted to live in extreme conditions such as intense heat, acidity, cold or pressure.

### USE IT IN A SENTENCE

Deborah likes to surf in hurricanes. You could say she's an extremophile, or possibly just nuts.

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CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

## I've changed my mind: Aliens are awesome

Last month I went to the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of science, a.k.a. the science fair of planet Earth. It was so literally awesome: It filled me with awe.

I went to a talk by Penelope Boston, head of astrobiology at NASA. She studies species that live in our most extreme environments, such as sulphur-spewing caves. Pretty crazy in Earth terms, but par for the course on other planets.

Everywhere she looks, there's life. Even deep inside rock for-

mations, where there are vast colonies of microbes that look like tiny cauliflower and cacti. They don't seem to share much DNA with any known life forms. Boston believes there's life on other planets, and it probably looks something like those rock critters.

The last time I wrote about aliens, I dismissed them as "looking something like pond scum."

I don't know where I got this "multi-cellular and sentient or BUST" attitude. Possibly from watching Space Jam one too

many times as a child. But the presentation helped me recognize it as prejudice. Alien microbes are not too small for me to care about; I'm too big and dumb to appreciate them.

Their existence raises huge issues. An upcoming NASA mission will look for life on Jupiter's watery moon Europa. And it's urgent that we plan what to do if we find it, Kevin Hand of NASA said.

Devastation reigned when humans decided it was a bright idea to mix micro-organisms from

different continents. What could happen if we brought European germs to Earth? Or the reverse? We could destroy an ecosystem before we get to study it. In Hand's words, "We must keep Europa for Europeans."

I never thought of that before. There's nothing better than thinking about something for the first time. That's awe. And the more time I spend hanging out with scientists, the more I get.

### Science Question?

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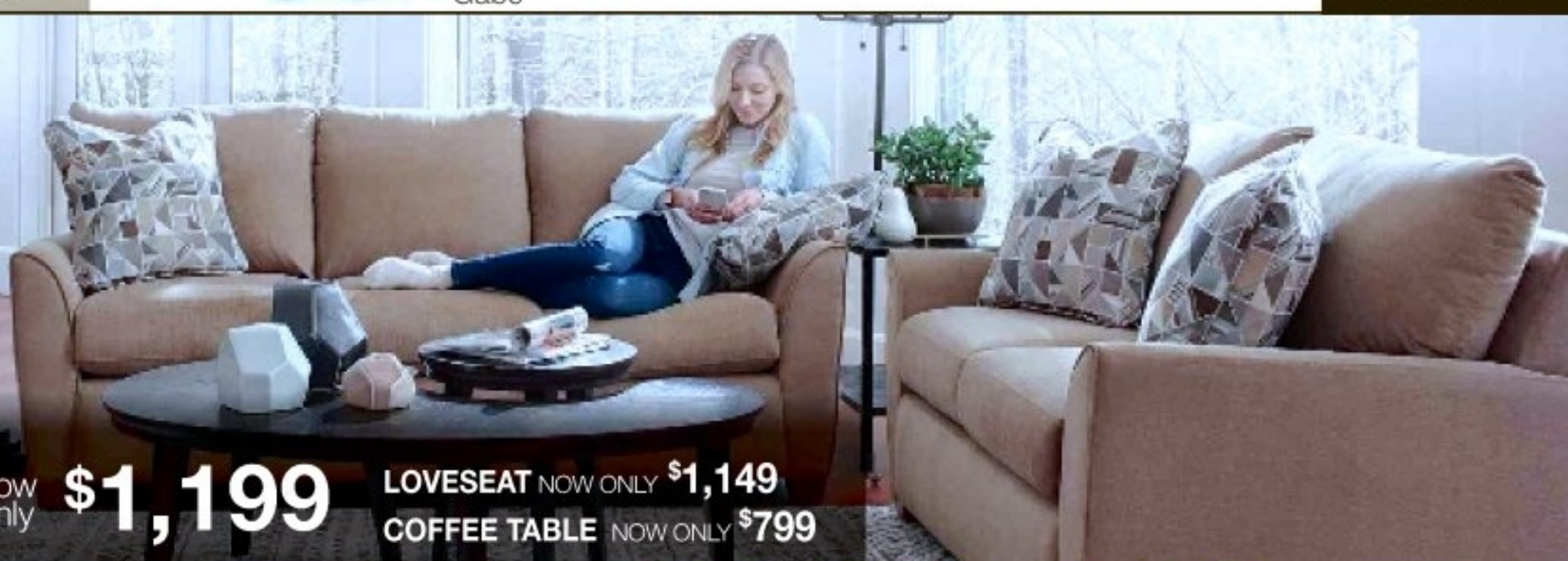
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## metro WEEKEND

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# History of an island fit for a king

IN FOCUS

**Eight decades after first visit, we still don't belong there**

**Richard Crouse**  
For Metro Canada



Only two things are sure about Skull Island. First, it is home to Megaprimatus kong a.k.a. King Kong and a menagerie of prehistoric creatures. Second, as Mason Weaver (Brie Larson) says in this weekend's Kong: Skull Island, "We don't belong here."

The latest adventures of King Kong take place almost entirely on the island but what, exactly, do we know about the place?

Not much, because Skull Island is uncharted and changes from film to film.

In the new movie, a digital map image suggests the island derived its intimidating name from its gorilla skull profile shape but originally the isle wasn't called Skull Island. The best-known versions of the Kong story, the original 1933 Merian C. Cooper film and the 1976 Dino De Laurentiis production, never mention Skull Island.

The first movie and its subsequent novelisation describe a "high wooded island with a skull-like knob" called Skull Mountain while the '76 film refers to Beach of the Skull. It wasn't until 2004's Kong: King of Skull Island illustrated



King Kong's island kingdom has had many names and been located all over the world over the years. HANDUTS

novel that the name was first used. Since then the moniker has stuck.

The same can't be said for its location.

Over the years it's been pegged everywhere from the coast of Indonesia and southwest of Central America to the Bermuda Triangle and the Coral Sea off the east coast of Australia.

In reality many places have subbed in for the island. In

1933 several locations were pieced together to create Kong's home.

Outdoor scenes were shot at

Long Beach, California and the caves at Bronson Canyon near Griffith Park in Los Angeles. Everything else was filmed on a

soundstage in Culver City using odds and ends from other sets. The giant Skull Mountain gate was later reused in Gone with the Wind's burning of Atlanta sequence.

De Laurentiis spared no expense bringing the island to life in 1976, moving the entire crew to the Hawaiian island of Kauai.

The shoot began at the remote Honopu Beach, a place the crew were told was de-

serted. Arriving in four helicopters laden with equipment they were greeted by a honeymooning couple who, thinking they had the place to themselves, had slept nude on the beach.

The impressive stone arch seen in the film — "Beyond the arch, there is danger, there is Kong!" — was natural and so huge years later when an episode of Acapulco Heat was filmed there a helicopter flew underneath it.

Peter Jackson's 2005 King Kong reboot used a combination of New Zealand's picturesque Shelly Bay and Lyall Bay as Skull Island's "jungle from hell." In the film's closing credits the director paid tongue-in-cheek tribute to all the stars of the 1933 movie, calling them, "The original explorers of Skull Island."

This weekend's installment was shot in Vietnam, Queensland, Australia and Kualoa Ranch, Hawaii, where giant sets were built near where Jurassic World was filmed.

The scenery, as John Goodman's character says, is "magnificent," but there was also a practical reason to shoot in these exotic locations. The Hollywood Reporter stated the production shot in Australia to take advantage of a whopping 16.5% location offset incentive — i.e. tax break — offered by the Australian government.

Kong: Skull Island describes the isle as "a place where myth and science meet."

On film though, it's a spot where the imaginations of Kong fans run wild.

### MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

**Kong: Skull Island** ★★★★★  
**The Last Word** ★★  
**Window Horses** ★★★

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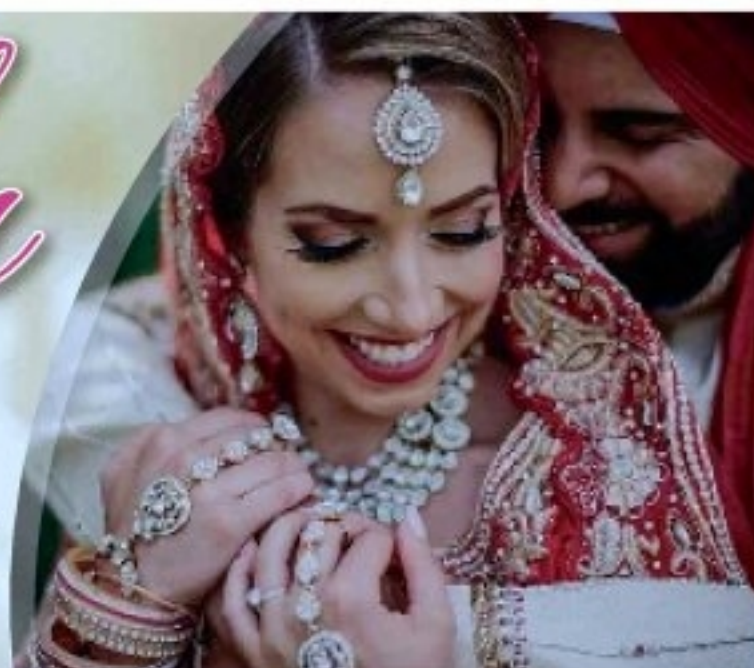
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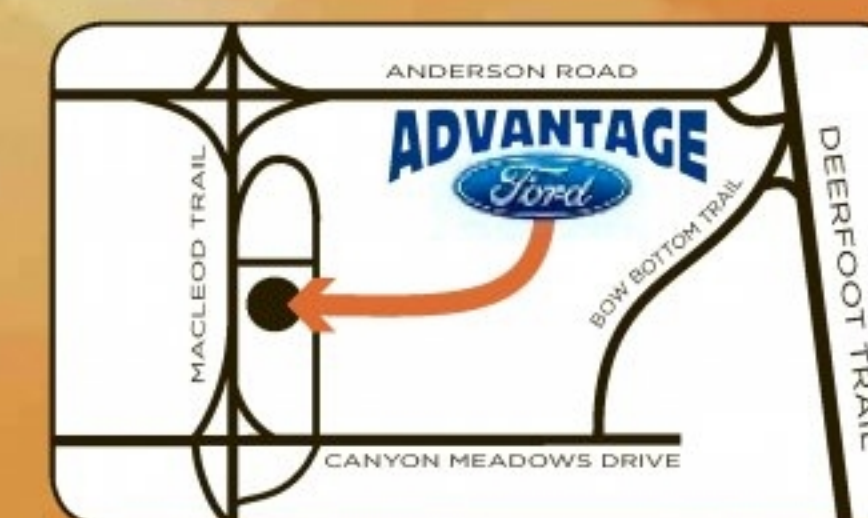
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Don't be fooled by his looks — Kong is still the snarling softie he's always been. CONTRIBUTED

ANALYSIS

## Still a sucker for a pretty smile?

The Wolverine sign-off Logan made bank last weekend by subverting superhero conventions, but Kong: Skull Island doesn't risk monkeying with its own durable legend.

It's old school all the way for this baby, which even fetishizes the analog film/tape/rotary dial world of Watergate-era 1973 where most of the action takes place, following a prologue set near the end of the Second World War.

Kong is still the snarling softie he's always been: a misunderstood lug who's a sucker

for a woman's smile, as seen in multiple outings dating back to his 1933 film debut and including the 2005 "reimagining" by Peter Jackson.

The puny humans who attack him in Kong: Skull Island, propelled by Creedence Clearwater's Bad Moon Rising and other classic rock ditties, are still as dumb as rocks — who flies a helicopter within grabbing distance of a growling furry behemoth?

They're led by a particular bloodthirsty warmonger, played by Samuel L. Jackson, who de-

clares the Vietnam War wasn't lost by the U.S. but rather "we abandoned it." He's actually scarier than Kong, as repeat eyeballs-to-eyeballs match cuts subliminally suggest.

Sticking to tradition seems the right call for this movie because, seriously, would you want a really bloodthirsty King Kong? He'd mop up the humans in minutes and you'd be left with just an extended trailer.

This is a real Kong show, the one demanded by popcorn peddlers and munchers alike.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Reilly: 'There's no future in war'

INTERVIEW

### Versatile actor finds time to be philosophical on Skull Island

Actor John C. Reilly's castaway character in Kong: Skull Island, a scruffy longbeard named Hank Marlow, brings to mind Dennis Hopper's crazed jungle cameraman character in Apocalypse Now.

Hank also looks like how the Skipper from Gilligan's Island might appear after the proverbial "three-hour tour" turns into decades of being lost.

Such comparisons certainly apply, Reilly allows over the phone from a tour stop in London. But he suggests a left-field one he thinks is more on the money: the wily orphan girl Newt in Aliens, played by Carrie Henn, who helps Sigourney Weaver's Ripley fight deep space invaders.

"Like Newt, Hank is someone who's been left for dead who has survived somehow and who has been driven half crazy by the experience — but who is going to survive, no matter what," Reilly says. "Hank is also the character who gets to call out the elephant in the room (about the dangers of Skull Island). I love characters like that, those people who are apart from the rest of the group with a unique point of view."

The 51-year-old Reilly certainly hasn't gone unnoticed, in a 27-year screen career that has seen him do memorable characters both comic (Walk Hard, Talledega Nights, Step Brothers) and serious (Magnolia, The Thin Red Line, The Aviator).

**You've done blockbusters before, but I'm guessing this one tested your ability to artistically stare up into the sky.** (Laughs) Yes, definitely! The effects guys would show us these little rough animations to give us an idea of what the actual action was that we're looking at, but that was nothing to seeing it for the first time on the screen. That's another fun thing about doing one of these effects-heavy movies. I get to be an audience member like everybody else! I've never seen it either! So when I sit down, it's a great surprise and a delight to me.

**Were you delighted when you saw the finished version of the film?**

I've seen it twice and I was really relieved that it was so good, because you never know. These big-budget things



John C. Reilly says Kong: Skull Island director Jordan Vogt-Roberts gave him freedom to improvise. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

can oftentimes get off track and lose their way from start to finish. But this really held together in a way that surprised even me. I didn't realize the emotional resonance that Kong was going to have. That was something that was hard to predict until you actually saw the finished creatures ... I showed the movie to a bunch of people I was working with when I first saw it, and it was unanimous, everyone was just walking out, being like, "We've gotta save Kong!" I love this notion of balance in the world, how important balance is, and how we have to be careful about exerting our will and throwing off the balance of the natural world around us. I think that's really relevant to current audiences.

**When you talk about being relevant, are you thinking of this as being some sort of a message movie?**

I think it's a message movie if you want it to be a message movie. The truth is, it's just a really fun movie. It's a popcorn movie; you get caught up in the excitement and the emotion. And then afterwards, like any good movie, it can resonate for you in your own life, which I think is a good thing.

I think a lot of times people dismiss "popcorn movies" because they say, "Well, I walked out of there and I just didn't think about it again. It immediately left my mind when I left the theatre." I think this movie has a little bit more going for it than that. I found myself thinking about how it related to my life, and how it related to the world.

**The temptation might be to read Trumpian things into the film, even though it was made before Donald J. Trump was elected president.**

I think that's our current obsession: reading Trumpian things into everything around us. I was reading Trumpian things into the World Series this year! But I think the themes of this movie are bigger than any kind of current political stuff. I think what we're talking about is the balance of the world, not just some political party or some election. We're talking about the bigger picture of things. The only way we're getting out of this world alive is if we all cooperate with each other, because there's no future in war. I think that's a pretty universal and non-partisan point of view. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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# Russell relishes chance to skate down memory lane



**Wyatt Russell played for numerous amateur hockey teams and one professional outfit before quitting the sport.** CONTRIBUTED

## INTERVIEW

## Former hockey hopeful turned to acting after ice dream died

## Richard Crouse



There was a time when an interview with Wyatt Russell would take place in a locker room, not a plush downtown Toronto hotel suite.

**The Goon:** Last of the Enforcers star not only plays a hockey player in the film, he was once a junior league goalie who says his first vivid memory was getting a pair of skates when he was just three years old. Hockey, he says, "was my love, my passion."

His promising athletic career was cut short by multiple concussions and an injury-plagued season in the Netherlands with Groningen Grizzlies, but the thirty-year-old fell right back into rink life on his first day of shooting Goon.

"We were supposed to be getting off a bus after a game to meet our family members," he says. "I remember sitting down and being like, 'This is what I did.' It was actors acting, but I thought, 'I've done this. I've already done this.' I looked over to my left and they start filling in the bus

with players that would fill out the team and there was a guy right next to me and I was like, 'Dylan?'

"I had played with him for a little while in Brampton. After that moment it became really easy and fun to slip back into hockey and hockey terminology. It's a world. It was what I wanted to do with my life."

The son of actors Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell says he met many people like the violent enforcer Anders Cain he plays in the film. Cain doesn't love the game, he loves to win — a perspective that comes when players get jaded, Russell says.

"They have a lot of talent. They've had a lot of talent since they were kids and there has been a lot of pressure put on them. For a lot of people there's a breaking point and the way that usually manifests itself is through self-destructive behaviour and they don't even

**“My dad always realized what the brain surgeon does when he’s done working. He goes home and watches TV. There’s a release there.”**

Wyatt Russell



**Russell credits his parents, Kurt Russell and Goldie Hawn, with giving him his perspective on acting.** GETTY IMAGES

know they're doing it."

It's not unlike showbiz.

"Every profession where people view it as larger than life," he says, "when you start to believe that it is larger than life and you are larger than life, is where I feel the downhill skid starts to happen."

"When you start to see yourself as more important than the world that's going on around you."

He avoided those traps because, although he grew up in a show biz family, his parents were raised in "lower middle class American families that lived in Maryland, Maine and Thousand Oaks. They didn't all the sudden forget that. That's not who they were or who their families were."

Now that a career in hockey is in his rear view mirror and Russell has perspective on how his new job fits into the scheme of things.

"It's just entertainment," he says. "Sometimes certain things can make a difference culturally. Maybe, on the smallest, tiniest, littlest scale but at the end of the day it is meant for you to go to the movie theatre and have a good two hours. You're not curing cancer."

It was his parents, Kurt and Goldie, veterans of a combined 100 films and countless hours of television, who taught Wyatt that a life spent in front of the camera is "about bigger things than yourself. They didn't forget and they raised us with that idea in mind."

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Kevan Funk's drama *Hello Destroyer* has been nominated for four honours at this weekend's Canadian Screen Awards including best picture and best actor for Jared Abrahamson. CONTRIBUTED

# Enforcing us to confront our bloodlust

## INTERVIEW

### Hello Destroyer tackles violence in hockey...and far beyond it

**Steve Gow**  
For Metro Canada



The forthcoming sequel to *Goon* may be getting most of the attention, but there is another hockey movie hitting theatres — even if the filmmaker doesn't particularly want it defined as such.

"I just knew I wanted to look at violence in an institutionalized way and so I needed a big

organization," insisted Kevan Funk about his debut feature film, *Hello Destroyer*. "And hockey is the biggest cultural institution in this country."

The terse drama may be gaining praise for its honest portrayal of Canada's most popular game, but the tale of a young player whose grisly in-game act of violence sends his life into a tailspin is winning critics for its take on our relationship with aggression in sport.

"I make films that are meant to be divisive to some degree," admits Funk, acknowledging his drama may initially turn off the game's traditionalists. "(But) it's not an anti-hockey film. It's not even an anti-fighting film because it doesn't

really comment so much on the violence of the game as much as the institutionalization of that violence.

"Sure there's going to be people who take it at first glance and go 'f— this movie, you've got to keep fighting in the game' but that's not even the conversation we're having."

In that sense, Funk's use of hockey was admittedly a "red herring" intended to reach beyond the mere bloodlust of watching two enforcers eat each other's fists.

In fact, that astute insight has afforded *Hello Destroyer* and Funk no less than four nominations (including best picture) at this weekend's Canadian Screen Awards.

While the movie may be

a longshot, it's an incredible accomplishment for the Banff-bred filmmaker.

Also nominated is lead actor Jared Abrahamson (Netflix's *Travellers*) who has stuck by Funk ever since *Destroyer* began as a short film in 2013. Now with more than eight projects in the works and Hollywood success on the horizon, Abrahamson has extolled Funk for his forthcoming fame.

"A lot of my directing style has to do with giving actors space," admits Funk, shirking the credit. "I equate it to coaching in a way — you choose the best players for your team, you know what they can do (and) then create the best conditions which are best suited to those people."

## BEHIND THE SCENES

### Destroying the rest of the Competition

"The weird thing about the hockey movie as an entity is that most of the time, they have very little to say about hockey," said Kevan Funk. "Those films are so detached from any reality; they're just this very strange fantasy world."

### Funk's Favorite Canuck Film

"Fubar has that badass unabashed boldness of being truly Canadian and I love that," said Funk of the cult-hit from *Goon*-director

Michael Dowse. "I want to see more of that across all genres."

### The Uncredited Star

Shot primarily in Prince George, B.C., Funk insists the town played as much a character as the actors. "There's something about having the fabric of that place and your cast and crew living there that shows up on-screen in sometime intangible and invisible ways," said Funk. "But I think that are essential ways."

STEVE GOW/FOR METRO

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# His journey to conquer his fears and sing with U2

## DOCUMENTARY

## Patrick Stark's film tracks his efforts to sing with Bono

**Gilles  
LeBlanc**  
For Metro Canada

A wise person once said, 'If you're going to dream, dream big'. They also must have said that if you have a fear to conquer, go even bigger. This is the message Patrick Stark obviously heard.

"For most of my life to the age of forty, I would consider myself a phobic person," the British Columbian filmmaker explains.

"I knew that I was terrified of singing in front of anybody."

Despite his at times crippling anxiety of being heard in public, Mr. Stark decided in 2009 to take a giant leap forward when he saw posters promoting U2's 360° Tour. "Do I want to live the rest of my life living in fear of trying things?"

Wanting to set a sky-high bar for himself as well as be an example for his kids, Stark concocted the most improbable and frightening of scenarios — singing on stage with Bono at BC Place stadium. Karaoke simply wouldn't do.

It is a journey he has been documenting under the title of *One Life No Regrets*, which Stark hopes to release after May 12, 2017. That date just happens to be when U2 kicks off their next gargantuan-sized excursion in Vancouver commemorating U2's fifth studio album, *The Joshua Tree*, which turned 30 years old on March 9.

Because Stark courageously opened the door for any opportunities that arose, the former *X-Files* production assistant came awfully close to realizing his dream in 2015.

Through a friend's tip, he found himself pitching the legendary rock group at a Gastown restaurant, to which Bono casually replied, "Sure. What are you doing Friday night?"

Unfortunately for him B.B. King died, putting off his big break so U2 could play *When Love Comes to Town* in tribute to the blues great.

While there hasn't been any communication in the time since, Stark is hopeful



**Singalongs to U2's *Under a Blood Red Sky* helped filmmaker Partrick Stark discover his voice and inspired his journey to sing with the band.** CONTRIBUTED

**“Do I want to live the rest of my life living in fear of trying things?”**  
Patrick Stark, filmmaker


**FAMOUS FEARS**

**Celebrities can have fears just like the rest of us.**



- Sing star **Matthew McConaughey** is afraid of revolving doors and tunnels.



- Mirrors apparently upset the forever-photogenic Pamela Anderson.



- If you can believe this one, Billy Bob Thornton is "petrified" of antique furniture.

GILLES LEBLANC  
LEBLANC/FOR METRO

Bono is a man of his word and won't forget the promise he made.

Why these Irishmen? It was singing along to an Under a Blood Red Sky cassette tape in his car where Stark discovered his own voice. There is no desire to pursue any kind of second career past overcoming this phobia.

If it doesn't come to pass, that'll be OK with Stark as just "by going on the journey, you actually start to come a lot closer than you could ever imagine."

His biopic isn't like *My Date with Drew* or "the ultimate selfie-taker at a concert"; interviews from music producers Steve Lillywhite and Daniel Lanois are threaded alongside spiritual teachings courtesy of Eckhart Tolle and *The Secret Prayer* author Dr. Joe Vitale, who instilled in Stark that "always choosing safe is not living."

Look up One Life No Regrets on Facebook or follow his @mrnoregrets Twitter handle if you're as curious as I am to see how this all turns out.

I know I'm pulling for Patrick Stark to get to do his perfect U2 song choice, Stuck in a Moment You Can't Get Out Of.





## AWARDS

## Fox, Short among Governor General award recipients

Michael J. Fox and Martin Short are among the newly announced recipients of the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards.

Created in 1992, the annual honour is presented to Canadians whose accomplishments "have inspired and enriched the cultural life of our country."

The Edmonton-born, Burnaby, B.C.-raised Fox catapulted to worldwide fame with roles including the classic sitcom *Family Ties*, as Marty McFly in the popular *Back to the Future* film trilogy, and his Emmy-winning turn on *Spin City*.

Fox has also received numerous humanitarian awards and became an outspoken advocate for people living with Parkinson's disease. The actor was diagnosed with the degenerative disorder in 1991.

The Hamilton-born Short has cultivated a career spanning more than four decades, from his early years as a member of Toronto's Second City improv troupe, to the sets of SCTV and *Saturday Night Live*, and film credits including *Father of the Bride* and *Mars Attacks!*

Short has also been called



Michael J. Fox. CANADIAN PRESS

upon frequently as an emcee, serving as the host of the Canadian Screen Awards in 2013 and 2014. He received a lifetime achievement award from the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television last year.

Montreal-born filmmaker Jean Beaudin was also named among the 2017 laureates. The screenwriter and director's ca-

reer spans from his early days at the National Film Board to a host of successful film dramas and TV series.

Also honoured was theatre and artistic director Brigitte Haentjens, who has helmed some 60 productions over the course of her lengthy career, and has previously been honoured with the prestigious Siminovitch Prize for theatre.

Rounding out the list of new laureates is writer, director, filmmaker, actor and producer Yves Sioui Durand who is heralded as a "pioneering figure" in contemporary indigenous theatre.

Along with the 2017 laureates, National Ballet of Canada artistic director Karen Kain is the recipient of the mentorship program honour, while choreographer and dancer Robert Binet serves as her protégé. The distinction is designed to unite past laureates with mid-career artists.

The 2017 laureates will be feted at two events in Ottawa, culminating with the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards gala on June 29.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Madonna's Vogue boys, reunited



Three of Madonna's famed back-up dancers: (right to left) Jose Gutierrez, Kevin Stea and Oliver Crumes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## DOCUMENTARY

### Strike a Pose reconnects the tour's backup dancers

All these years later, the male dancers from Madonna's iconic 1990 *Blond Ambition* tour still have a few regrets. Among them is letting their tight-knit group of 20-somethings drift apart after a whirlwind run of global concerts with the Material Girl.

"I felt like I had so much to say to them and I didn't get a chance," says Jose (Xtravaganza) Gutierrez while sitting alongside some of his fellow dancers.

The documentary *Strike a Pose*, which airs Saturday on TVO before becoming available to stream nationwide, finally reconnects most of the group to reflect on being cultural influencers. They've all matured and evolved, but none of them have heard from Madonna in decades.

Three of the dancers — Gutierrez, Kevin Stea and Oliver Crumes — chatted with The Canadian Press about their roles in popularizing vogue, a stylized performance of model-like poses that originated from drag shows in 1980s Harlem before becoming a global sensation under Madonna.

**Jose, you were an active voguer before Madonna hired you. What were those early days in New**

**York City like for you?**

Gutierrez: (Voguing) was a very gay, urban underground dance in gay clubs and hangouts. Prior to that it has been around for like 50 or 60 years (but it took) somebody like Madonna to bring it mainstream. I was able to mix my professional (dance) training into the underground form. Stea: You changed the game. Jose's a trained dancer so he brought all these technical skills — his elasticity, his flexibility — and that changed it from more showy into an actual dance form. Working with Madonna ... created this really strong gay-straight alliance. It brought the gays dancing with the straights. There's a common ground in dance and music.

**Yeah, those twirl-and-drop moves you mentioned seem a little dangerous. You could really smack your head on the floor.**

Gutierrez: Every time they do it I go, "Ow, there goes your back in 10 years."

Stea: Just concussions. Gutierrez: Don't get me wrong, voguing has evolved, and that's what it is. But I think it loses (something). Vogue is borrowed from the magazine so it should maintain that attitude, that silhouette, and shouldn't be something so frantic.

**Oliver, you were the lone straight guy on the tour. The documentary presents you as this kind of**

**flamboyant tough guy from the hip-hop world hired to give Madonna's tour some edge. What was it like learning to vogue from scratch?**

Crumes: I'd never, ever heard of it until I (listened to Vogue) and saw Jose and Louis (Camacho, another dancer) teaching us. It was like a new way of style — to give attitude, to be sure you're self-confident. It didn't come natural, but they made the choreography very easy for us.

**In the 1991 concert film Madonna: Truth or Dare you come across as pretty homophobic at times, using a derogatory word to describe your fellow dancers, but in Strike a Pose you have a reckoning with your past views. Can you talk about how that happened?**

Crumes: I never remember saying (those words in the film). I saw it recently and I got scared .... I could easily get thrown under the bus ... or hated by the community, even though it was done in 1990. (Crumes pulls a piece of paper from his pocket and begins to read) Twenty-five years ago I was very young and naive ... and being in the entertainment business all my life, working with all types of personalities, I have come to see we are all human beings, who have emotions, hearts and feelings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# His doc began with a single frame of video

## POLICE BRUTALITY

## Frame 394 examines why police killed Walter Scott

When Daniel Voshart first saw the shaky cell phone video of a white police officer in North Charleston, S.C., shooting a black man in the back five times, he couldn't look away.

Waves of disgust washed over him as Walter Scott fell to the ground and as, moments later, officer Michael Slager crept over and appeared to drop and then retrieve what looked like a Taser next to Scott's body.

Hundreds of miles away, in his Toronto apartment, Voshart, a then-28-year-old cinematographer who had recently been toying with video stabilization, thought he could unravel the mystery of the Taser and help get Slager indicted.

Within an hour, he had stabilized that portion of the clip and posted a gif that he says nabbed the most comments on Reddit.

But within weeks, he had discovered something else in the clip's 394th frame that had him cancelling his plans, consulting ballistics experts and reaching out to the FBI.

It threatened to upend Slager's trial and has become a key part of Frame 394 — a short documentary following Voshart's insatiable quest for the truth, which is up for a prize this weekend at the Canadian Screen Awards.

The idea for the 30-minute documentary, which screens free on CBC's website, came after Voshart called his friend, filmmaker Rich Williamson, to his apartment in April 2015.

By then, Voshart had made the footage so clear that as Slager reached to unholster his gun, Scott could be seen holding what looked like Slager's Taser — potentially enough to make Slager fear for his life and maybe meet the grounds needed to use lethal force.

Voshart's discovery was, perhaps, the proof Slager needed to fight the life sentence he could get if found guilty.

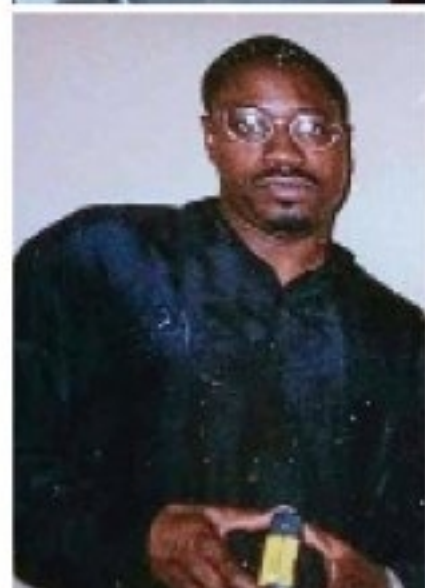
"I wasn't quite sure if I was losing it," Voshart said. "There were hundreds of thousands of views on the footage online and I assumed people would have noticed the Taser by then."

In a state of disbelief, he reached out to Williamson, with whom he had studied film at Ryerson University.

"I want you to tell me if I



**Daniel Voshart, top right, stabilized a shaky cell phone camera clip about a police officer and Walter Scott. left. TORSTAR PHOTO**



am having my Beautiful Mind moment," Williamson recalled Voshart asking, implying he was worried he might have become too invested in the project.

Williamson didn't think so. Something about the video and Voshart's dedication intrigued him.

"I said to [Voshart], maybe for future things, we should document it, but we didn't plan to make a film. It was more creating a video journal, so that he might have something to look at afterwards," Williamson told the Star.

Voshart agreed a video journal was a good idea, but with Black Lives Matter and the media rallying around the case, it didn't take long for them to realize Voshart's work was meant for something more.

With the CBC's backing, they started turning it into a documentary.

At first, Voshart says it was "bizarre" to have a friend pointing a camera in his face, but he quickly grew comfortable and

even stipulated that his pal abide by a journalism code of ethics to ensure their friendship didn't get in the way of the film being objective, factual and authentic.

The camera was also rolling when Voshart headed to the U.S. to show Slager's lawyer the stabilized video and discuss potentially becoming an expert witness in the case, and when he chatted with a then-incarcerated Slager via Skype.

"Someone who (taught) political ethics at the University of Toronto said the best thing to do was to delete what I found," said Voshart.

But even when calls to the FBI to show the video were fruitless, he refused to forget about it and says, "I don't have many regrets because it was me making peace with the situation."

Not everyone has seen his work or Frame 394 that way.

Some have attacked him online. "One person wanted me to die in a fire," he says.

But for the most part, the film has been met with praise.

"It's sparking people to have

conversations where they might be uncomfortable with each other," said producer Shasha Nakhai, adding the awards season attention it's been getting was a pleasant surprise.

The short doc had also been shortlisted for an Academy Award and went to film festivals in St. Louis, Rhode Island, New Orleans, Edmonton and Amsterdam.

And though the documentary made a whirlwind tour of North American festivals and screened at Hot Docs and the TIFF Bell Lightbox, Voshart said he hasn't turned into a local celebrity yet.

As for Slager, he's on house arrest awaiting his next day in court after his case ended in a mistrial.

Voshart turned down a retainment offer from Slager's lawyer and doesn't expect to testify in the case, but says, "I've kept up with the court proceedings as much as I can."

"I feel invested in it. I want to follow it all the way through. I just have to know the verdict."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**It's sparking people to have conversations where they might be uncomfortable with each other.**

**Shasha Nakhai, producer**



# Icy warriors, icy women, icy worries

A little bit more about four movies that are being released this weekend

## 1 Hello Destroyer

— (Starring Jared Abrahamson, Kurt Max Runte, Joe Dion Buffalo, Paul McGillion and Sara Canning; Written and directed by Kevan Funk; 110 minutes; 14A)

The tragic cliché of the heroic hockey enforcer is explored with art and impact in this powerful feature debut by Vancouver writer/director Kevan Funk.

Nominated for four Candys at this week's Canadian Screen Awards, Best Motion Picture among them, *Hello Destroyer* brings documentary realism to the dramatic story of minor league bruiser Tyson Burr (Jared Abrahamson).

As a new recruit to the Prince George Warriors, Tyson is eager to please his meat-eating coach Dale Milbury (Kurt Max Runte), who counsels winning at all costs: "This is why we burn and bleed — to achieve greatness."

But when Tyson's exuberance sends an opposing player to hospital with life-altering brain and spine injuries, the coach and other team officials shift from high-fiving to finger-pointing. Tyson is put on "indefinite suspension" while lawyers shimmy.

"Indefinite" translates as the ostracizing of dazed Tyson, who is as inarticulate as he is ill-equipped to deal with public shunning. Abrahamson manifests his character's grief with almost wordless self-loathing and a barely contained rage that recalls Casey Affleck in



*Manchester by the Sea*. Funk doesn't stint on the loaded metaphors. Tyson spends his days in the wilderness working at an abattoir and tearing down an old house, his interior torment underlined by cinematographer Benjamin Loeb's artfully claustrophobic close-ups. The one person who befriends Tyson is an indigenous man (Joe Dion Buffalo), who understands social disenfranchisement all too well.

It's all legit, though, considering the circumstances. And Funk is equally capable of critical

understatement, as when the concept of "home" turns hypocritical in scenes set before and after Tyson's fall from grace.

Players are told by their coach that they have to loyally beat up the visiting opposing team because "It's our house, for f---'s sake." The fans expect it.

But when it all goes terribly wrong, remorseful Tyson is asked by the worried family billeting him to vacate the premises because "this is our home." He might set a bad example to their young son, eh?



The film's most powerful moment is completely inferred: a barely heard singing of *O Canada* at a televised hockey game seems sorrowful rather than triumphal.

## 2 The Last Word

— (Starring Shirley MacLaine, Amanda Seyfried and AnnJewel Lee Dixon; Directed by Mark Pellington; 108 minutes; 14A)

Shirley MacLaine is almost too good at being a curmudgeon in this manipulative tale of redemption by Mark Pellington

(*Arlington Road*).

By the time MacLaine's character Harriet shows real humanity, all sympathy for her character's loneliness has long since vanished.

A wealthy small-town retiree, Harriet, 81, uses her wealth and power to bully her own employees and also those of tiny local newspaper *The Bristol Gazette*. When a near-death experience suggests she's fated to be remembered badly, Harriet orders the *Gazette's* obituary writer Anne (Amanda Seyfried) to commence work on a laudatory eulogy.

Anne initially balks, not just because Harriet "puts the bitch in obituary," but because she can't find anyone to say anything nice about her. It's time for a bonding road trip, with precocious moppet Brenda (AnnJewel Lee Dixon) in tow.

Locked on autopilot for a Hollywood ending, the movie glosses over a scene where Harriet insults and then fires a woman, whose job she then steals. Once a monster, always a monster — and wouldn't that story arc have made for better use of MacLaine's considerable talents?

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**3 Antarctica: Ice and Sky** — (Directed by Luc Jacquet; 89 minutes; STC)

March of the Penguins filmmaker Luc Jacquet returns to the frozen continent for an arresting and urgent doc that warns rather than charms.

Using archival and recent footage, Jacquet tracks the work of pioneering polar scientist Claude Lorius, a climate change verifier whose astounding discoveries should silence all deniers.

Now in his 80s, Lorius has been visiting and studying Antarctica since 1956, when he and two other researchers spent a year on the ice studying it. Initially there to map the vast land mass, he and his fellow scientists (whom we barely get to know) became interested in the composition of the frozen water at their feet.

Lorius developed a method of dating ice, using drilled core samples up to 400,000 years old, that prove rising global



temperatures of the past century are caused by man, not nature.

Science has given us the ability "to unearth and see what is normally invisible," Lorus says. The film will hopefully prompt a lot more people to look harder at the mounting evidence that global warming is a clear and present danger.

**4 Window Horses —**  
(Starring the voices of  
Sandra Oh, Don McKellar;  
Written and directed  
by Ann Marie Fleming;  
88 minutes; G)  
Rosie Ming is a francophile

who's never been to France, a budding poet and a young woman with some abandonment issues.

Caught between cultures, her late mother's, her long-lost father's (Iranian) and her native country — she's a born and bred Vancouverite — Rosie has loads of intellectual curiosity and a touch of attitude. It makes her an interesting and appealing protagonist.

When Rosie is invited to a poetry conference in Shiraz, Iran, where her father is from, it allows her to deal with one of the great unresolved issues

of her life: why did her dad abandon the family when she was 7?

The variety of animation styles are well executed and there's some lovely poetry. The voice work is sublime, especially Sandra Oh as Rosie and Don McKellar has some droll moments as the arch Dietmar, a fellow poet.

Throughout, writer/director Ann Marie Fleming demonstrates an adeptness at storytelling.

One question: why is Rosie a stick figure while the other characters are more, uh, fully fleshed?

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## CASTING

## Jackson apologizes for British criticism

Samuel L. Jackson said Wednesday he wasn't trying to slam black British actors when he criticized their casting in American films such as the horror hit *Get Out* and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. drama *Selma*.

Jackson said that his comments Monday on the radio station Hot 97 weren't necessarily misunderstood, but his criticism was not of the performers but rather of the system that allows black actors from overseas take prominent roles in American films.

"It was not a slam against

them, but it was just a comment about how Hollywood works in an interesting sort of way sometimes," Jackson said at the premiere of his new film *Kong: Skull Island*.

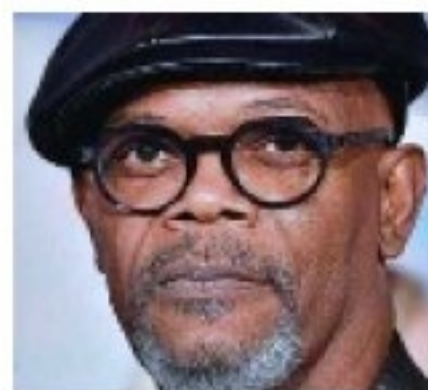
Jackson noted on Monday that a lot of roles are going to British actors. He said he wondered what *Get Out* would have been like "with an American brother who really feels that." Jordan Peele's film is about an African-American photographer, played by the British actor Daniel Kaluuya, whose white girlfriend brings him home to her parents' house.

Jackson also pointed to Ava DuVernay's *Selma*, which starred David Oyelowo as King.

His comments drew criticism from John Boyega, the British *Star Wars* star, who on Twitter called the debate a "stupid" conflict "we don't have time for."

On Wednesday, Jackson was complimentary of the skills and hard work black British performers put in to take on American roles, but he said that was a one-way street.

"We're not afforded that same luxury, but that's fine, we have plenty of opportunities to work,"



**Samuel L. Jackson.** GETTY IMAGES

he said. "I enjoy their work," Jackson said of his British counterparts. "I enjoy working with them when I have the opportunity to do that." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Cameron back at sea fishing for truth

## INTERVIEW

### Titanic director says Atlantis resonates in today's climate

James Cameron is on the line from southern California, taking a rare break from work on his four upcoming Avatar sequels, which he's shooting concurrently.

The three-time Oscar-winning Titanic writer-director says he's "charging full-tilt into production" on the followups to his 2009 smash Avatar.

But he's also carved out time to make and promote the TV documentary Atlantis Rising, because he's deeply passionate about the subject matter.

Debuting Sunday on Discovery in Canada, the special sees Cameron teaming up with Emmy-winning, Israeli-Canadian filmmaker/journalist Simcha Jacobovici to search for archaeological evidence of the fabled lost city of Atlantis and its civilization.

"Stepping way back on it and looking at Atlantis as an enduring myth that intrigues us, to me it's

a lot like Titanic," says Cameron, who was born in Kapuskasing, Ont., and grew up in Niagara Falls, Ont.

"Titanic is a story about hubris — it's a story of humans who thought they could dominate nature, and it turned out to be a bubble of delusion, if you will.

"Well, the Atlanteans perished in some catastrophic way and in the Greek mindset, that would have meant that they challenged the gods, they defied the gods, they got too big for their britches, basically."

The filmmaker behind such hits as The Terminator, Terminator 2 and Aliens sees parallels between the story of Atlantis and the world today.

"Are people fascinated by these kind of apocalyptic stories because they see us heading for the same kind of precipice?" he says. "I certainly do, with climate change. I look at the challenges that are in front of us and I see us going the wrong direction.

"At a point when we should be linking hands internationally as a global community to solve these kind of existential threats, we're not. We're isolating and we're breaking apart these international communities and I see



Atlantis Rising is the third James Cameron-Simcha Jacobovici collaboration. CONTRIBUTED

us going the wrong direction.

"So maybe we should pay attention to Atlantis and Titanic and the fall of the Roman Empire and these great stories from our past. Because does history repeat itself? If it doesn't repeat exactly, it certainly rhymes with what happened in the past."

Atlantis Rising marks the third collaboration between Cameron

and Jacobovici, after the docs The Exodus Decoded and The Lost Tomb of Jesus.

Using Greek philosopher Plato's description of Atlantis as a treasure map, Jacobovici heads out with a team of experts and cutting-edge technology across the Mediterranean to look for clues on land and underwater.

Cameron didn't go on the ex-

pedition because of pre-production on Avatar, so instead he's seen in his studio video chatting with Jacobovici.

Cameras capture Cameron and his Avatar crew testing improvements in their software and their virtual reality production process.

"I was having expedition envy the entire time," says Cameron, who's also a passionate deep-sea

explorer. Jacobovici and his team did discover some evidence suggesting Atlantis was more than a myth.

"Have we found Atlantis? I'm the skeptic, between myself and Simcha Jacobovici," says Cameron. "He's the enthusiastic, hard-charging field reporter and I'm the crusty but benign editor."

“

**Archaeology is very poorly funded these days.**

James Cameron

Cameron says he's an explorer-in-residence at National Geographic and would be happy to do more field research on the subject matter.

"There was more funding back in the heyday of unearthing Egyptian tombs and so on at the beginning of the last century, but these days it's a trickle," he says. "So I think, 'All right, we're filmmakers, we can shed some light and bring some resources to this poorly funded area of the sciences and find out more.'"

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# 'Poetry is the way we live our lives'

## INTERVIEW

### The unifying power of words explored in new animation

Sandra Oh remembers growing up without seeing people like herself reflected in popular culture and wants to ensure her two mixed-race nieces don't have the same experience.

That's one of the reasons Oh decided to make *Window Horses*, an animated feature in which she voices the character of Rosie Ming, a 20-year-old Vancouver poet of Chinese and Persian descent whose life changes when she's invited to a literary festival in Iran.

"In animation and animated films, there still is not enough

representation at all. So from a personal point of view, I wanted to tell this story and get this character on screen," Oh said in an interview when the film screened during September's Toronto International Film Festival.

"My nieces are mixies, two great girls growing up in North Vancouver, and I want to tell stories for them, to see themselves reflected even in an animated character."

Oh, best known for her role on the hit TV medical drama *Grey's Anatomy*, is also an executive producer for the film, which blends multiple animation styles.

At the heart of the film is Rosie, who lives with her over-protective Chinese grandparents until she travels to Iran to perform at a poetry festival. There she begins to learn more

about the father she believes abandoned her.

The film subtly deals with cultural sensitivities, generational divides and elements of feminism at a time when the discussion of Islamophobia and national identity often dominate discussion.

Written and directed by Japanese-Canadian filmmaker Ann Marie Fleming, *Window Horses* weaves poetry as a

common thread through the story and features works from lauded Persian poets as well as Rosie's own creations.

For Fleming, poetry is a powerful, unifying force.

"Poetry is not something that's created in another time by another people," she said. "Poetry is the way we live our lives and poetry shows us how we've had this continuum through time."

The story was years in the making, Fleming said, and ended up including a number of autobiographical elements.

"Things that have happened to me, my life, people I know, stories I've collected, everything in the film is true," she said. "It's almost a love story to all of the people that I've met."

The character of Rosie actually started off as a boy, Fleming noted, before becoming

a female figure based a little on herself.

"I wanted to explore it as a woman because I am a woman," she said of the main character. "She's an interesting character, and yes she's a woman and yes she's mixed race and yes she's complicated, she has a complicated history, but we want to know about her because she's real."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sandra Oh lends her voice and her executive producing skills to *Window Horses*, a cultural animated movie. GETTY IMAGES

**“My nieces are mixies, two great girls growing up in North Vancouver and I want to tell stories for them, to see themselves reflected even in animated characters.”**

Sandra Oh, on mixed-race film representations



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# Chuck & Danny's ode to Canada

## COOKING

## Chefs' road trip showcases our landscapes and great food

There's no "TV magic" when it comes to the constraints of cooking outdoors over an open flame and prepping a feast for a large crowd — all before the sun sets.

In fact, it can be downright stressful, say chefs Chuck Hughes and Danny Smiles, co-stars of *Chuck and Danny's Road Trip*, airing Fridays on Food Network Canada.

The duo, who are partners at work and best friends, spent six weeks in an RV exploring a half-dozen regions of the country. Each of the six hour-long episodes finds the Montreal chefs preparing a campground feast with unique ingredients sourced through local cooks, fishers, farmers and foragers.

"We're feeding anywhere between 12 and 20 people — and we're not only feeding them, we're feeding them what we helped gather from their ingredients and you see how much hard work they put into whatever they're growing or whatever they're harvesting — and you just don't want to screw it up," says Smiles, chef at Le Bremner, one of two restaurants co-owned by Hughes.

"You want to honour them and their product."

The first episode, set in Prince Edward and Hastings counties in Ontario, saw them cook a 43-pound roast over an open fire, enhancing it with wild juni-



The constraints of cooking outdoors over an open flame while prepping a feast for a couple dozen guests can be downright stressful, say chefs Chuck Hughes, left, and Danny Smiles, co-stars of *Chuck and Danny's Road Trip*, which airs Fridays on Food Network Canada. Hughes and Smiles are seen in front of their recreational vehicle in this undated handout photo.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO-CORUS, JOHNNY C.Y. LAM

per foraged with chef Justin Cournoyer.

Neither Hughes nor Smiles had ever worked with such an enormous hunk of beef.

"You're really nervous because A, you didn't want to screw it up, that amount of meat. It would be sad," says Hughes, host of *Chuck's Day Off* and *Chuck's Eat the Street*. The two-time cookbook author and co-owner of Garde Manger restaurant also appeared on the

first season of *Chopped Canada*.

"On the other side, we have a time frame and no matter what, with TV on an outdoor show, you've got sunset, which you're always fighting. There's the reality of cooking for 20 people and then there's the reality of the sun's going to set and even if we wanted two more hours for this roast, it's really not an option."

That only adds to the pressure, along with not having all

the comforts of home at their fingertips. "That's cooking. It's problem solving," chimes in Smiles, who was on the third season of *Top Chef Canada*.

Other episodes of *Chuck & Danny's Road Trip* take the pair to Vancouver Island, B.C.'s Salt Spring Island, the Bay of Fundy in New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. Though both chefs are well travelled, neither had been to Salt Spring Island.

"The experience there was

amazing. And second of all, coming from the East Coast, when we go to B.C. as cooks, B.C.'s got it all," says Hughes.

"For us it's the crab, the salmon, the cod, the shrimp. It doesn't stop — plus we had figs and fruits that we can't necessarily grow in Quebec."

In Prince Edward Island, they foraged for chanterelle mushrooms, munched on wild apples, dug potatoes, procured oysters and feasted on fresh lobster.



**You want to honour them and their product.**

Danny Smiles

One of their more memorable tasks was collecting wild rice "the old-fashioned way in a canoe with sticks," says Hughes.

And both were surprised to find wild sumac while foraging in Ontario. The burnished red clusters of the plant lend a citrus flavour to food traditionally associated with Middle Eastern and Mediterranean cooking.

They hope the show will encourage people to savour the outdoors, "but most importantly I think for us is to get people just cooking and enjoy that, whether it's outdoor, open flame or it's in your kitchen or on your barbecue, really just get inspired by Canadian ingredients and get out there and cook," says Hughes.

Both chefs, who will be part of Jamie Oliver's *Big Feastival* Canada event slated for Aug. 18-20 north of Toronto, raved about the scenery across the country.

"We get to see the beautiful landscape that's Canada and some of the campsites we were at were unbelievable. They were national parks that anyone could go to," says Hughes.

"It's not like we were special. Anybody can get the exact same campsite we had with the view of the Bay of Fundy. Hopefully people will be inspired to visit their own country. We're always so quick to go somewhere else."

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# Gossip DIGEST — DUSHKU, DIDDY & DEATHSTROKE

**1 Dushku details drug fight** — Actress Eliza Dushku, who gained fame on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Bring It On*, says she has been sober for eight years after battling alcoholism and drug addiction. WCVB reports the 36-year-old detailed her battle with alcohol and drug addiction at the New Hampshire Youth Summit on Opioid Awareness earlier this week.

She says she began to experiment with drugs at 14. She says she loved the way drugs made her feel. Now she says she's a "good auntie" and staying sober for herself.

**2 Diddy, Evans recall Biggie** — The Notorious B.I.G. is being remembered by collaborator Sean "Diddy" Combs and his wife, Faith Evans, 20 years after the rapper's killing. Combs asked social

media users to salute the rapper by rapping their favourite Biggie verse and posting video on social media. He put up a sombre video message himself saying, "time heals all wounds, but this one ain't healed yet."

**3 Manganiello insists Gotham is calm** — Joe Manganiello is asking for the media to dial down the drama surrounding the upcoming stand-

alone *Batman* film. Manganiello is signed on to play the villain Deathstroke opposite Ben Affleck's caped crusader in *The Batman*. Manganiello tells *Robert Irvine Magazine* those in the media who suggest the project is in trouble or the script needs revision "are drama queens." He says "everyone on the cast and crew wants to make this the best movie possible." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# Pokemon Go still catches the masses

## MOBILE GAMING

### Initial hype has past, but game is still widely played

Few games have enjoyed both the meteoric rise — and subsequent fall — in popularity as Pokemon Go.

But the game remains profitable, and people are still playing even if they aren't the same masses that roamed parks last summer with eyes glued to smartphones, looking for elusive virtual monsters from their childhood to appear right in front of them.

"It kind of brings people together to have a conversation about these little cartoon characters that we're all in love with," said Brian Swain, a sales representative for Rockstar energy drink who has stuck with Pokemon Go since it launched last July.

While past its heyday last summer, when some small businesses and landmarks had complained of disruptive crowds, the game has seen renewed interest after last month's addi-



Many are saying the mass hysteria of Pokemon Go is likely over, but the game has generated more than \$1 billion in revenue. AP PHOTO

tion of 80 Pokemon and in-game events set around holidays like Halloween and soon, Easter.

The updates addressed complaints about a lack of updates that contributed to a drop in monthly active users, according

to app market analyst Apptopia.

"Over time, the enthusiasm has waned, but there's still quite a bit of people playing it," said Joost van Dreunen, the CEO and founder of SuperData Research in New York. "It raises the question: Was it

a fad, a thing we only did one time for one game, or is it going to hold people's attention longer?"

Niantic CEO John Hanke insists Pokemon Go is no passing fad.

The game — whose servers

## \$1 billion

Pokemon Go has generated this much revenue, as of January.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

had difficulty handling traffic last summer — will fulfil long-promised additions of sought-after "legendary" Pokemon and the ability for players to battle and trade with each other, he said.

"What happened last summer was really kind of strange, where Pokemon Go spiraled out of control to this level of cultural awareness that nobody expected, certainly not us," Hanke said. The "extremely successful" game now has usage "at a more normal level," he said.

The hard-to-replicate game still has an enviable following in Japan, China, Korea as well as North America, Dreunen said.

Since the game's release, Dreunen said, the \$40.6 billion worldwide mobile game industry has become flooded, and investment may shift to

mobile games that rely on well-loved characters and provide frequent updates.

As spring approaches, there are signs of new life. Milwaukee County has prepared for Pokemon Go and future augmented-reality games by requiring game developers to obtain a permit to get players into parks.

In Maine, members of the Pokemon Go 207 Facebook group have noticed more screenshots from players taking up the game again.

Nick Fournier, a 21-year-old media studies student at the University of Southern Maine, said he's glad the company has finally begun listening to players' complaints. He described last summer as a phenomenon brought on by the game's nostalgia and the technology's novelty that he doesn't expect to see again.

Erin Morrison, a 23-year-old schoolteacher living in Greene, Maine, said she has kept playing through a dreary winter by driving to places she knew had multiple spots to catch Pokemon. "With the new update, it's been so awesome," she said. "I'm seeing so many people coming back out."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**Nelly Furtado has a new album coming out, *The Ride*, at the end of March.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# Furtado's writing a stage play

## TELEVISION

## Pop singer teamed up with Brazilian composer

Nelly Furtado says she's been working on writing a stage play based on Brazilian composer and activist Caetano Veloso in her downtime between albums.

But she doesn't want to rush its completion.

"I don't like to put time constraints on myself," Furta-  
do said in an interview Wed-  
nesday.

"I realize that good things take time."

After a shortened tour for her 2012 album *The Spirit Indestructible*, Furtado decided to enrol in a playwriting course at the University of Toronto, which motivated her to look more closely at Veloso as an artist.

While unknown to the Canadian mainstream, the Grammy-winning performer is considered instrumental in the creation of Tropicalia

music, a fusion of bossa-nova, folk and rock music.

Early in his career, Veloso clashed with the Brazilian dictatorship government over his outspoken lyrics. He was eventually jailed for "anti-government activity" before being forced into exile in

**I don't like to put time constraints on myself. I realize that good things take time.**

Nelly Furtado

London.

Veloso, who sings mostly in Portuguese, has since worked with David Byrne and was sampled by Furtado in her track "Island of Wonder," from the 2003 album *Folklore*.

Furtado said the script isn't finished yet and has been put on the backburner as she focuses on her upcoming album *The Ride*, due on March 31.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## TELEVISION

## Game of Thrones Season 7 starts in July

Game of Thrones will be back in action in July.

HBO said on Thursday that the series will return for its seventh season on July 16.

The season will be the next-to-last for the fantasy saga based on George R.R. Martin's novels.

It will include seven episodes instead of the usual 10 and is debuting later than seasons past. They had usually begun in spring.

Returning cast members include Kit Harington, Peter Dinklage, Lena Headey and Emilia Clarke.

The delayed debut date for Game of Thrones means it will miss the deadline for the 2017 Emmy Awards, a contest it routinely dominates.

Last year, the drama series scored a dozen Emmys, including outstanding drama series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**Game of Thrones' next season begins in July.** AP PHOTO VIA HBO

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# Adams and Peters team up to step in for absent Bubl  at Junos

MUSIC

## Comedian and music veteran host awards in place of friend

When Michael Bubl  revealed his three-year-old son was fighting cancer last year, it shattered fans and many in the music community — but it also left organizers at the Juno Awards in an unusual position.

Only a few days earlier, the pop crooner was announced as the host for this year's celebration of Canadian music. Yet in a very short time his life had dramatically changed. Until further notice, his family was his only priority, he said in November.

What that meant for the Junos wasn't entirely clear. It wasn't until Thursday's announcement that rocker Bryan Adams and comedian Russell Peters would step in that everything was ironed out.

Bell Media president Randy Lennox called the turn of events a "truly Canadian" moment, with two of Bubl 's longtime friends offering to help out.

Lennox said he's excited about the prospects of pairing one of Canada's biggest global rock stars with a stand-up comedian known internationally for his brand of zany multicultural humour.

"It's just a great magical combination because it doesn't make sense," Lennox said.

"I like the fact it's a little bit disruptive."

Adams has a deep connection to the Junos with 18 awards to his name, including multiple best artist, best album and best single trophies. Still, the prolific hitmaker who's penned



Bryan Adams has a deep connection with the Junos, having won 18 awards in his lengthy career. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

classics like Summer of '69 and Heaven isn't the most obvious choice to host.

Peters doesn't have a Juno on his mantle but hosted the 2008 show in Calgary and did it again a year later in Vancouver. He's probably better acquainted with quick-witted banter than his counterpart.

"Bryan will be the element of surprise," Lennox suggested. "He's a very funny guy ... but it's probably a drier sense of humour, I'd say."

Talks first began last November when Lennox met with Peters, who was locking in plans

for his TV series The Indian Detective, made for Bell Media-owned CraveTV.



**Bryan will be the element of surprise. He's a very funny guy but it's probably a drier sense of humour.**

Randy Lennox

The conversation shifted to Bubl 's recent struggles, and the comedian volunteered to swing into the hosting gig if things got desperate. With Bubl  still officially signed as host, the Junos kept the possibility in their back pocket.

When Bubl  bowed out of the Brit Awards in late January, the possibilities increased that he might decide hosting the Junos this year wasn't the right choice.

Word then spread to Adams, who spoke with Junos organizers in early February about filling the other half of an un-

likely comic duo.

The Junos have found success in the past by pairing hosts that were well-known to Canadians but shared seemingly little else in common.

Last year's Calgary show was hosted by singer Jann Arden and Jon Montgomery of Amazing Race Canada, while 1983's gala was led by Burton Cummings and Alan Thicke.

Stranger still was the trio of country singer Johnny Reid, hip hop producer and artist Clasified, and pop singer Serena Ryder in 2014.

Brainstorming sessions have

already yielded some material that'll make Adams and Peters shine, Lennox said.

"Russell is a natural writer, but Bryan, he has tons of ideas," he added.

Whether Bubl  will return to host for next year's Juno Awards seems undetermined at this point.

"The answer to that is family first," Lennox said.

The Junos will be held in Ottawa on April 2, with scheduled performances by artists including Alessia Cara, Arkells, Sarah McLachlan and Shawn Mendes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# 5 FLOWERS BEST GROWN FROM SEEDS

It's March, which means it's time to start germinating seeds if you want a garden that's in full bloom this year. Get started with these picks. **MARK CULLEN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



## 1 Nasturtium

Low growing, sometimes with a vine-like growth habit. "Hot colours" that produce for several weeks in the garden. They love the sun but last best in a "cool" part of the garden, facing east. When they look their best, they are stunning. My favourite variety is whirlybird, as they bloom outside of the foliage (while some varieties hide their flowers). Grows to 40 centimetres.



## 2 Morning glory

A twining vine that needs vertical support at least two metres high, they produce large quantities of medium-sized, trumpet-shaped blue flowers that are attractive to hummingbirds. But here is the catch: they perform best in marginal soil. If you are adding to your garden soil when sowing the seed, be sure to mix in about 30 to 40 per cent clay. When you make growth a little tough for a morning glory, you encourage it to bloom like crazy. Don't fertilize.



## 3 Sunflowers

Sunflowers can take up a lot of space but man, are they easy to grow! Get kids in on the action, starting on the day of sowing the seeds. They will love the speed with which they explode through the soil and the growth that can occur during one hot, sunny day. If you have an average or small garden, consider some of the popular varieties that only mature to about 50 centimetres or less: junior, teddy bear (pictured here) and dwarf Pacino.



## 4 Nicotine

An unfortunate name for a wonderful flowering plant. While images of a hacking cough might be on your mind, the truth is you will be blown away by the flower's fragrance, once it is established. Come mid-summer, the nicotine in my garden is the biggest hit, late in the day when the air is still and the hummingbirds are at their peak of activity. "Old fashioned" nicotine produces large clusters of trumpet-shaped flowers. Grows up to two metres high. Loves the sun.



## 5 Calendula

Pot Marigold. I am not sure how this low-growing flowering plant got the name. It is neither a marigold nor would anyone in their right mind smoke it. All I know for sure is that this plant produces masses of yellow or orange flowers mid-summer. I sow them in a row in my veggie garden and pick them to bring indoors. They stand up quite well in a vase and honey bees frequent the blooms in your garden. An edible flower. Thrives in full sun. Grows to 30 centimetres high.

### HOME DECOR

## Cacti: The perfect houseplants for beginner green thumbs

Succulents, which are plants with fleshy stems or leaves, are ideal houseplants. They have interesting shapes, are relatively pest-free and thrive in the dry air of a heated home — and on neglect.

Let's look at cacti, which are just one type of succulent.

Cacti are native only to the Americas, having evolved 60 million years ago when upward-pushing mountains transformed the then-lush tropical climate of the western Americas to desert. With thick stems for water storage (a giant saguaro cactus of

Arizona can store 1,900 litres of water), an absence of leaves, which reduces water loss, and waxy coatings to hold in water, cacti thrived despite parched conditions. To fend off animals, many species developed spines.

### Origin and variety

Over time, cacti spread from within the Arctic Circle down to the tip of Chile. I have seen flat, green pads of opuntias growing wild on New York beaches and Christmas cactus growing wild in the crevices of trees in tropical

rain forests. With the exception of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, every state in the U.S. has at least one species of native cactus.

Visual oddities abound. The old-man cactus (*Cephalocereus senilis*) has a shaggy covering of long, hoary "hair." The lamb's-tail cactus (*Wilcoxia senilis*) has slender stems which seem to pour out from the swollen root that protrudes above the soil line. Some of the moon cacti (*Gymnocactus* spp.) have had their green chlorophyll bred out

of them, so they are now red. Without chlorophyll, they can't survive, so they are grafted on top of other cacti.

### Spectacular flowers

Cacti commonly have spectacular flowers, made more dramatic by their prickly pedestals. Cacti such as mammillaria, notocactus, lobivia and rebuchia bloom indoors with very little coaxing (rebuchia often blooming twice each year). Fat flower buds along the stems of the orchid cactus, *Epiphyllum* open to spectacular red, pink or

white blossoms, depending on the variety.

### Care tips

Caring for a cactus is easy: Provide good drainage by adding extra sand or perlite to any potting mix. Do not overwater.

Water your cacti two or three times, or even not at all, in winter. In summer, once every week or two is plenty. Watch the stems. If the plants shrivel or pucker, don't worry; just water them. If in doubt about whether or not to water, don't. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



**Epiphyllum oxypetalum (Queen of the Night cactus).**  
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## The great baseball tour

With one major league baseball team in Canada, when it comes to home plate pride, it's hard to root, root, root for Toronto's Rogers Centre. It is unbearably stuffy when the retractable roof is closed, the food and drink options are often overpriced and underwhelming, and, well, that whole beer-can throwing incident last season didn't help its rep. Fans don't hate the centre as much as, say, Barry Bonds, but it's a close call for many. Celebrate the arrival of spring with a road trip and visit these stadiums where taking in the ol' ballgame is always a homerun. **Melissa Dunne** FOR METRO



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### CHICAGO

#### Wrigley Field

The Chicago Cubs broke a 108-year losing streak last fall, bringing the pennant back to Wrigley Field in Chicago's North Side. The famed stadium, built in 1914, is guaranteed to be buzzing with excitement this season. Soak in the beauty of the ivy-covered outfield walls while getting buzzed off a cup of local craft beer.



### BALTIMORE

#### Oriole Park at Camden Yards

The home of the Baltimore Orioles is in the heart of this gritty city. The grub here is so good you'll be hoping for extra innings, just so you can go back for more. The stadium offers everything from tacos to pizza to a namesake-barbecue joint opened by former All-Star Boog Powell.



### SAN DIEGO

#### Petco Park

Take in a game with the San Diego Padres while soaking up the warm California sun shining down on you. The food here is said to be so-so. But what Petco Park lacks in culinary finesse it makes up for in craft beer. Make sure to make your way up to the fifth floor where local brewery, Stone Brewing Co., has a palm-tree adorned outdoor beer garden.



### SAN FRANCISCO

#### AT&T Park

This park is also named after a telecom company, but that's where the similarities with Rogers Centre ends. The beloved home of the San Francisco Giants has a beautiful view of the city's bay. Don't leave without getting a selfie with the giant statue of a replica vintage 1927 four-fingered baseball mitt.



### BOSTON

#### Fenway Park

You may want to leave your Jays jersey at home when you visit Major League Baseball's oldest stadium. Boston Red Sox fans are renowned for, er, being passionate, but it's worth the razzing to see the Green Monster in person. Find the energy to razz Sox fans right back with a Fenway Frank.





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**TRAVEL NOTES** CANADIAN NAUTICAL HISTORY, A MONUMENT SINKS, CARIBBEAN MUSIC CRUISE

**The Lost Fleet**

During WWII nearly 1,200 fishing boats owned by Japanese-Canadians were seized by Canadian officials on the B.C. coast — an action that followed Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. This is the focus of a new exhibition, *The Lost Fleet*, opening March 24 at the Vancouver Maritime Museum. The exhibition will feature photographs and models of some of the seized boats. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**


**Azure Window arch collapses into sea**

A beloved Maltese landmark that once served as a *Game of Thrones* backdrop has vanished. The Azure Window, a limestone arch that drew droves of tourists to the island of Gozo, collapsed into the sea during a recent storm. Maltese Prime Minister Joseph Muscat said the monument's absence is a "heartbreaking" scene for the country. **ANDREW FIFIELD/METRO**


**J Khaled to headline music cruise**

Music-themed cruises are nothing new, but DJ Khaled headlining a cruise to the Caribbean? That could make waves. He'll be hosting an electric music festival, Summerfest Cruise 2017, aboard the Norwegian Sky cruise ship, June 30-July 3. Future, A\$AP Rocky, Lil Wayne and Migos are among those scheduled to attend. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



# 5 PLACES IN HONG KONG TO EXPLORE LIKE A LOCAL

You probably already know the urban areas of Kowloon and Hong Kong Island, but there's much to explore in the New Territories and across Hong Kong's staggering 263 outlying islands. From countryside and wilderness to seaside escapes and urban exploring, here are five things you need to do in the region. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES PHOTOS

## 1 Tai O fishing village

Known as the "Venice of Hong Kong," this historic fishing village is the last of its kind. Participate in a walking tour with Tai O Eco Tour that'll take you through old lanes and alleys, through shrimp paste and dried seafood stores, on a speedboat ride along the coastline to catch a glimpse of the Chinese white dolphins known for their curious pink hue, to a quaint village home where you'll learn how to make salted egg yolks. **Details: tour3g.com**



## 2 Lantau Island

Just past Disneyland and the international airport, you'll find Hong Kong's largest country park.

Start with a 25-minute 360 cable-car ride from Tung Chung MTR station to Ngong Ping, where you can admire the stunning panoramic vistas of the rolling green hills below, or hike the snaking trails to Ngong Ping Village. Explore the temples and Po Lin Monastery before walking up the 268 stone steps to reach the 34-metre tall bronze Big Buddha. **Details: np360.com.hk**



## 3 Yim Tin Tsai

This small abandoned island has become a favourite among day-tripping locals who are looking for a brief escape to the simplicity of 19th-century rural life. Yim Tin Tsai can be reached via a short boat ride from Sai Kung pier on the weekends. Once home to thousands of people, its prominent features include the UNESCO-awarded and conserved St. Joseph's Chapel and resurrected salt pans. For unbridled serenity, hike past the decaying homes to the breezy mangrove-populated breakwater link to Kau Sai Chau island.



## 4 Sai Kung

This popular seafood town is often referred to as the "back garden of Hong Kong" and prized for its pristine beaches and hiking trails. Relax along the seaside at one of the dainty bars or cafés dotting the coast, or feast on an array of freshly prepared sea-to-table fish, bivalves and crustaceans.

## 5 Historic Haunted Hong Kong

Discover Hong Kong's quirky, and often ghoulish, past with Walk in Hong Kong tours. Learn the history behind gentrifying Sai Ying Pun's community complex (a.k.a., High Street Haunted House), the ghosts and myths of Wan Chai, or feel your skin crawl while exploring ground zero of the 19th-century bubonic plague outbreak at Tai Ping Shan (Peaceful Hill) with the informed tour guides. Bespoke tours are available by request. **Details: walk-in.hk**



The author of this piece was hosted by the Hong Kong Tourism Board, which didn't review or approve this story.



# Guiding Lonely Planet into the digital age

## INTERVIEW

### Houghton named CEO of popular travel guides at 24

Daniel Houghton was just 24 years old when he became CEO of Lonely Planet in 2013. Since then, he's restructured the company, expanded its digital presence and, to the surprise of many who feared he'd kill off Lonely Planet guidebooks, he's grown the print side of the business. The company now has 33 per cent of the guidebook market, its largest share ever. Houghton, now 28, starts his fourth year with the company in April.

Houghton's roots are in the South — he grew up outside Atlanta and holds a photojournalism degree from Western Kentucky University. But you could say travel is a family tradition: His parents worked for airlines and his grandparents toured the lower 48 states in an Airstream camper in the 1970s.

Houghton is based in Nashville, Tennessee, now, but last year he travelled some 150,000 miles for Lonely Planet, and the

year before that, 300,000 miles.

#### What are some of the changes at Lonely Planet since you took over?

We've completely rebuilt the entire digital platform along with a suite of mobile products. We've just really tried to expand our content coverage as much as possible: food, adventure travel, we've launched a whole line of kids' content.

Travel is really much more than 'I'm about to go get on a very long-haul flight and take my guidebook.' That's obviously a very large part of our audience. ... But we've set the business up to reach people on as many platforms as we can. Whether they find something that we put on Instagram, or they see our magazine in the airport, or they visit our website because they Googled where to go in Italy and we're the No. 1 or 2 organic search result, we want to get that content in front of as many people as possible.

#### You were hired to run Lonely Planet by Brad Kelley, the billionaire who bought the company from the BBC. How did that come about?



Lonely Planet CEO Daniel Houghton at a rooftop bar in New York. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

We got to meet pretty randomly a couple years before Lonely Planet. I was in the right place at the right time and very fortunate to have that opportunity. We met a few times and he offered me a job.

#### What were you doing before Lonely Planet?

At the time I was frustrated

with the newspaper industry. I had started my own one-man band, a multimedia company doing everything from shooting pilots of TV shows to commercial work.

#### Kelley bought the company from the BBC at a fraction of what it had sold for a few years earlier. Is Lonely Planet

#### profitable now?

We're certainly moving in the right direction. We're proud of what we've achieved and we don't really comment on the rest of it.

#### Had you travelled the world before Lonely Planet?

I'd been a lot of places but I hadn't been to Asia and I've

never been to Antarctica. Every other continent I had been to a couple of times — a lot of vacations and both my parents worked for the airlines. Until I turned 21, I had a free ticket.

I grew up travelling with the family. My mom's idea of a really fun vacation was, 'Let's go to New Hampshire to see all of the covered bridges in the whole state.' As a 10- or 12-year-old, that's not radically exciting. But it is when you get given a camera: 'Maybe I'll take a picture of every one of them.'

#### Are there places you haven't been that you want to go?

Last year we had a book called The Ultimate Travel List. We had Angkor Wat at No. 1. I've never been there. I'd love to see that. I'd love to go to Myanmar. Vietnam.

#### How many countries have you been to?

I'm somewhere north of 35 but not more than 45.

#### How many states?

I've got one state left. I have not been to Hawaii. Of all the ones, right? THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Glimpse an era when the West grew

## HISTORY

### Winnipeg rail museum carries visitors back in time

To say the ambience at the Winnipeg Railway Museum is authentic is an understatement. Not only is the museum located on old railway tracks at Union Station — the grand Tyndall limestone building that has welcomed innumerable immigrants and tourists over the last century — but it sits directly beside tracks still used to transport people and goods across the vast Prairie landscape.

Open a door in the museum to the outside, and you may see VIA Rail's The Canadian sitting there, at a rest point on its three-day, 4,400-kilometre journey between Toronto and Vancouver.

Inside the museum, there are more than 20 engines, baggage cars, maintenance cars and more along one kilometre of track, surrounded by old railway signs and mock station buildings that can make you feel like you've stepped back in time. Signs indicating now-fictional departure times to faraway towns are lit up.

And in many of the cars, visitors are invited to pull levers and turn dials.

"It is touch-friendly and it really displays the equipment and how it works," says Douglas Bell, president of the non-profit group that runs the museum. "This is a hands-on museum."

Railways and Winnipeg have a special connection. Just over a century ago, a booming Winnipeg was the largest city in the



The Countess of Dufferin, the first steam locomotive on the Prairies, in the Winnipeg Railway Museum. THE CANADIAN PRESS

West and a gateway for immigrants who helped develop the region. A long train ride from eastern Canada, across a seemingly endless stretch of northern Ontario, led to the Manitoba capital and points west.

The museum goes back even further: One of its star attractions is the Countess of Dufferin, a steam locomotive built in 1872 in Pennsylvania. It was brought by barge to Winnipeg in 1877 and was used to connect Winnipeg to points south, east and west.

"She laid the first rail track in western Canada, and that was linking Winnipeg up with St. Paul, Minnesota," Bell said. "She was basically building the railroads ... and worked west as far as Golden, B.C."

Posters of advertisements from the ensuing years adorn nearby walls, urging men to come west

and find work during the boom.

Behind the Countess of Dufferin lie other locomotives and passenger cars built in the early 20th century. Stepping inside one car allows you to see the small comforts of rail transportation circa 1920 — some padded seats and a stove for warmth.

There are also rail cars that were used to fight fires, pull spikes and inspect the tracks.

Another section of the museum is devoted to women who broke into the male-dominated industry. On display is an old 35-kilogram knuckle coupler that was used to link trains. Some women had to prove they could lift a coupler before being hired.

Bell and his colleagues work to ensure the older equipment

looks ready to work.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IF YOU GO...

### Location:

The Winnipeg Railway Museum is on the second floor of Union Station at 123 Main St. in downtown Winnipeg.

### Cost:

Adult admission is \$5. Kids aged 6-15 are \$3 and those under 6 are free if they're accompanied by an adult.

### Hours:

From April to October, the museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Winter hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

### Website:

wpg railwaymuseum.com

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# TOP 150 FOR 150

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## Good to goal

### HOCKEY

### Thawing out old memories

Sean Plummer

Canadians are proud of our hockey players. Maybe it's because many of us spent hours on the ice as kids, feeding the dream that we might one day play in the big leagues. And goals, normally so few and far between, punctuate that love and can become cherished cultural moments.

Certainly Canadians have scored some memorable ones. Take 1972's Summit Series in

Moscow between Teams Canada and Russia, where Paul Henderson scored "the goal heard around the world."

The teams would meet 15 years later and provide the amazing sight of Mario Lemieux taking a rush from Wayne Gretzky and roofing it into the Soviet net.

Marie-Philip Poulin secured Olympic gold for Team Canada at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, netting the winning goal in OT to defeat the U.S. 3-2.

Even pop star Justin Bieber has gotten in on the action, showing off his puck-handling skills at the NHL All-Star Game this past January and scoring an empty netter during the Celebrity Shootout. Hockey makes Beliebers of us all.



Team Canada's Paul Henderson lies sprawled out in front of the Russian net with a Soviet defenceman wrapped around his legs after scoring the winning goal in the 1972 Summit Series.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Making a big splash

Sure, we have most of the Great Lakes (the greatest by far is the aptly named Lake Superior, which contains 10 per cent of the world's fresh water and has more water than all the other Great Lakes combined).

But Canada can lay claim to a whole bunch of Really Good lakes, too — as many as two million of them, in fact.

We have more than 31,000 lakes larger than three square kilometres. Of those, 561 are bigger than 100 square kilometres. So go jump in a lake!

SEAN PLUMMER



Canada is home to as many as two million lakes, including Lake Louise in Banff. ISTOCK



ISTOCK PHOTO

## We're number two!

Canada is the biggest country in the world... except for Russia.

At 17,075,200 square kilometres, Russia is king of the castle. But Canada, hey, we're next in line at 9,984,670 square

kilometres. More importantly, we're bigger than America, which is a comparably tiny 9,826,630 square kilometres. Amateurs.

SEAN PLUMMER

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# metr SPORTS

One year after signing a four-year deal with Houston, Brock Osweiler was traded by the Texans to the Cleveland Browns

## Lazar all smiles



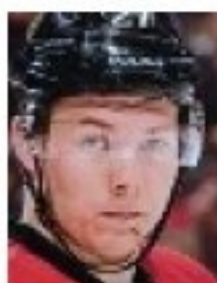
FLAMES UP CLOSE

Ryan Leslie

The smile is back ... almost.

The newest member of the Calgary Flames is known for his trademark grin but it had been missing of late. That was until the trade that sent him from the Ottawa Senators to the hometown Calgary Flames.

The Senators chose Curtis Lazar 17th overall in the 2013 draft. He was a captain, he was a Memorial Cup and world juniors champion, and he had the character teams want and need. But somewhere between his



Curtis Lazar  
GETTY IMAGES

first and third year, something wasn't working. Whether it was new coaches and new systems or his own play as he struggled to find confidence, it became clear, the kid from Salmon Arm, B.C. needed to leave the nation's capital and head west for a new beginning.

Lazar admitted Calgary was at the top of his list for a new address. He likes the young nucleus on the team. He played for Flames assistant coach Dave Cameron in

### + PODCAST

Listen to the Flames Up Close podcast at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca).

Ottawa. He knows some of the players, and has basically fit like a glove in just over a week after being sent here at the trade deadline.

Except for one thing. He can't get in the lineup because, well, the team is the hottest in the NHL. You don't mess with that right now.

In our conversation for the Flames Up Close podcast, Lazar says he's more than understanding of that, especially as he's learning the ropes around here. He opens up about the thought about taking a leave of absence from hockey, how now he's just happy to be here and how he can learn from a teammate and former first-round pick who struggled, Mikael Backlund, on patience and perseverance.

Even though he's not in the lineup yet, Lazar says he feels like he's back in junior. Light. Happy.

A fresh start for a first-round pick. Definitely something to smile about.

Ryan Leslie is host of Calgary Flames TV.



### NHL FLAMES GIVE HABS A RUDE WELCOME

Flames defenceman Matt Bartkowski dumps Michael McCarron of the Canadiens into the Montreal bench on Thursday night at Scotiabank Saddledome. The Flames entered the game having won seven consecutive games. Go to [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca) for the story.

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Upcoming games

- Saturday at Winnipeg
- Monday vs. Pittsburgh
- Wednesday vs. Boston
- March 17 vs. Dallas

### WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

## Bautista powers Dominican victory



Jose Bautista, right, hit a three-run homer Thursday in Miami. GETTY IMAGES

Jose Bautista homered and drove in four runs, and the Dominican Republic opened its bid for a second consecutive World Baseball Classic title with a 9-2 victory against Canada.

Wellington Castillo hit a two-run homer for the Dominicans, who went 8-0 to win the 2013 title.

The Canadians are in danger of being eliminated in the opening round for the fourth time in as many WBCs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### IN BRIEF

#### Roughriders make it official with Vince Young

Vince Young is officially a Saskatchewan Roughrider.

The Riders announced the signing of the former Texas Longhorns star Thursday. Young, 33, is returning to professional football after having last played in a regular-season game in 2011 with the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles.

"He brings a lot of intangibles that winners bring," said Riders coach/GM Chris Jones.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

#### Herman takes early lead at Valspar Championship

Jim Herman played bogey-free golf en route to a 9-under 62 and a two-shot lead at the Valspar Championship on Thursday in Palm Harbor, Fla.

Herman putted for birdie on all but two holes, and except for a 35-foot putt from the fringe on No. 10, the rest of his birdie putts were all from 15 feet or close.

British Open champion Henrik Stenson and Russell Henley carded scores of 64.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

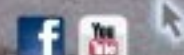
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# Hinchcliffe back to flooring it

## MOTORSPORT

### Oakville Indy driver kicks off dancing shoes, gets back in car

James Hinchcliffe has hung up his dancing shoes and put his racing helmet back on. It's a much freer feeling than one year ago.

The Oakville, Ont., driver says the upcoming IndyCar season — which begins Sunday with the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg — feels like a clean slate.

Hinchcliffe, who competed on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars* last fall, was riddled with questions entering last year after a near-death experience at the 2015 Indianapolis 500 when his left thigh was pierced by the car's right front rocker following a crash in practice.

"I think going into the start of last season, there was so much talk about the comeback and all the rest of it and it carried through all the way into the month of May just being that's where the accident happened, so the first four, five races of the

year it was heavy running commentary on it," Hinchcliffe said in a phone interview.

"Now coming into 2017, it's not a story any more, we're so far past it. For me it feels like a much kind of freer start to the season in that sense and everybody's just talking about going racing and not thinking back to what happened a couple months ago."

Hinchcliffe rebounded at the 2016 Indy 500 — IndyCar's premier event — by taking the pole position before finishing the race seventh. He followed up with a third-place finish at his hometown race, the Honda Indy Toronto, before coming second at the Firestone 600 in Texas.

Hinchcliffe said that earning pole position and finishing on the podium in Toronto were "dream come true moments."

"It was great to be on the podium but it made me that much more hungry to win in Toronto," Hinchcliffe said. "I've never had that much luck there and to kind of have a good fortune and put up a good result was huge. I want nothing more than to give everyone back home something to cheer for. That moment in Toronto was very special."



“Everybody doesn't believe me when I tell them, but I can't dance. It's not something I can do.”

James Hinchcliffe on making the final two of *Dancing with the Stars*

MIKE STONE/GETTY IMAGES

The 30-year-old and partner Sharna Burgess were runners-up on *Dancing with the Stars*. Hinchcliffe said it took lot of convincing to get him on the show, but he has no regrets after finishing second.

"I'm floored we even made it

to that point," Hinchcliffe said. "They put me in a situation where I learned very specific steps to a very specific song and that was it. But if you just put me out in the middle of a dance floor with some random track playing, I'm just gonna go to

the fist pump or the macarena." IndyCar officials have frozen rule changes for 2017, which Hinchcliffe says will close up the field and make for a competitive year.

"For the first time in three years, we haven't had to be tak-

ing big swings at figuring out how to make this car work," Hinchcliffe said. "We have a season's worth of data to look back on and we look at races where we performed well, and more importantly races where we didn't and try to figure out why."

Last season was dominated by Simon Pagenaud and Team Penske, with the Frenchman winning the IndyCar title ahead of teammates Will Power and Helio Castroneves. Penske added more firepower to its team by signing Josef Newgarden, the 2015 Indy Toronto winner.

"The Penske organization really put a firm beating on us all of last year and we're all very keen to beat back," said Hinchcliffe, whose last IndyCar win came at the 2015 Grand Prix of Louisiana. The Canadian has four career wins including the 2013 race in St. Petersburg, Fla.

"Our street car package, it needs some work. We're not on Penske's level, but nobody is. It's tough. They have more of an advantage on the street courses than anywhere else and that's something that we've obviously put a lot of focus on."

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## MAKE IT TONIGHT

## Instagram-level Waffled Avocado Grilled Cheese



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

Raise your grilled cheese game to Instagram levels with this pretty twist on a lazy dinner classic.

**Ready in 15 minutes**

Prep time: 5 minutes  
Cook time: 10 minutes  
Serves: 2

**Ingredients**

- 4 slices of whole grain bread
- butter
- 1/2 avocado
- small handful of fresh cilantro
- salt
- 1/2 cup shaved Monterey Jack cheese

**Directions**

**1.** On a cutting board, lay out bread slices. Spread butter on one side of each slice of bread.

**2.** In a small bowl, mash avocado, cilantro and salt to taste. Spread a heaping tablespoon of avocado mix on two slices of bread and sprinkle with cheese. Add cheese to the other plain slices of bread.

**3.** Place grilled cheese in waffle maker and cook according to machine's directions for a waffle. Repeat for the second sandwich.

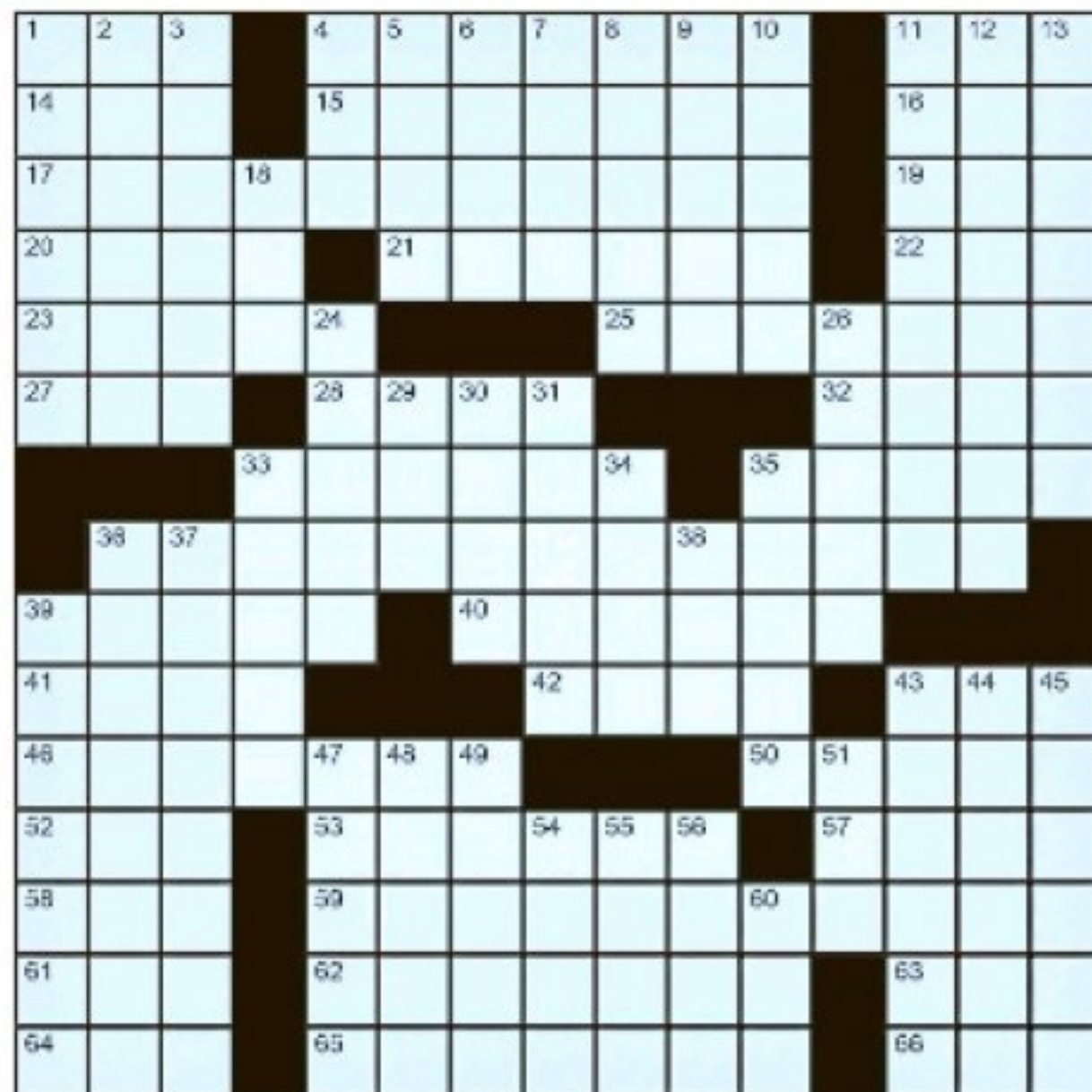
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## CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

**ACROSS**

1. Laughing one's laughs  
4. Lose effectiveness as tape on paper  
11. Vital life energy  
14. Inclined  
15. "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" (1947) actress Gene  
16. Tavern drink  
17. Northwest Territories town on the Mackenzie River where Imperial Oil has had operations for almost a century: 2 wds.  
19. Pixie  
20. Happiness  
21. Red-tagged in the store: 2 wds.  
22. Universal ideal  
23. Country singer Mr. Jackson's  
25. Doesn't get better  
27. CD-  
28. Converse  
32. First Nation of Manitoba  
33. Virgil epic  
35. Earths  
36. As per #59-Across, Feist dances along this airport mechanism: 2 wds.  
39. "Me" by Nickelback  
40. Canis Major's bright star  
41. Shades  
42. Ice floe denizen  
43. Gusto  
46. Getting-dressed person  
50. Tamarack \_\_ (NWT's official tree)  
52. UK military fliers  
53. Go by, as time



57. Court plea, \_\_  
contendere  
58. White House nickname  
59. Feist song for which the music video is set in an airport: 4 wds.  
61. Cost  
62. Hopeful human  
63. Apple \_\_

64. Craze  
65. #63-Across, for one  
66. Attempt  
**DOWN**  
1. Airplane garage  
2. \_\_ Theater (Legendary concert hall in Harlem)  
3. Broadcast like Netflix  
4. Marathoner  
5. "Deep Purple" by \_\_ Tempo & April Stevens  
6. Stitched  
7. " \_\_ bien!"  
8. "Mother- \_\_" by

- Ernie K-Doe  
9. Stringed instrument  
10. 1939: "Three Little Fishies" band-leader Kay  
11. Touchstones  
12. In a compassionate way  
13. Puts upon

18. Fellows  
24. Beer mug  
26. Flat-bottomed vessels  
29. Rock star Ms. Wilson  
30. ZZ Top hit  
31. Green inside fruits  
33. Dispatch boat  
34. Defy  
35. Cranium's location  
36. Hawaiian volcano: 2 wds.  
37. Give too many munchies  
38. \_\_ Fail (Irish coronation stone)  
39. Law enforcer in a Western  
43. On time  
44. Patisserie item  
45. Variantly fake  
47. Rage: 2 wds.  
48. Alex P. Keaton's mother  
49. Ground-to-moving-truck aids  
51. Unspecified amount  
54. Pea, in Montreal  
55. Upset  
56. Vitality, wee-ly  
60. "The A-Team" star: wd. + letter

## ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
You have an agenda, which is why you will work hard during the next six weeks to earn money. Many of you also will be spending it!

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
Fiery Mars will be in your sign for the next six weeks, boosting your energy and giving you lots of drive. (Be careful not to blow some people away.)

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
You may have to use your sleuthing skills and diplomacy to deal with someone who might not have your best interests at heart. Unfortunately, this lasts for the next six weeks!

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
You will be physically active with others, especially in groups, during the next six weeks. Some of you also will be in competition with each other.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
Your ambition will be aroused for the next six weeks, which is why you will be keen to pursue certain goals. Count on getting a lot done!

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
Travel plans will appeal to you during the next month. In addition, many of you will pursue higher education, schooling or further training during the next six weeks.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
You have definite ideas about how you want to handle shared property and debt. However, during the next six weeks, these ideas might put you at odds with someone.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
You will need to be patient with partners and close friends in the next six weeks, because you might find them to be annoying. This could be so, but you also might just be easily annoyed.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
You are gung-ho to work hard in the next six weeks, especially at your job. Naturally, you will produce a lot and get great results.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
It's playtime during the month ahead! You couldn't pick a better time to go on a vacation. Fingers crossed!

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)  
During the next six weeks, you can expect increased chaos and activity on the home front. This might be due to renovations, visiting guests or something unexpected.

**Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
You will be enthusiastic and energetic in all your communication with others for the next six weeks. This will be handy for those of you who write, sell, act or teach. Use this!

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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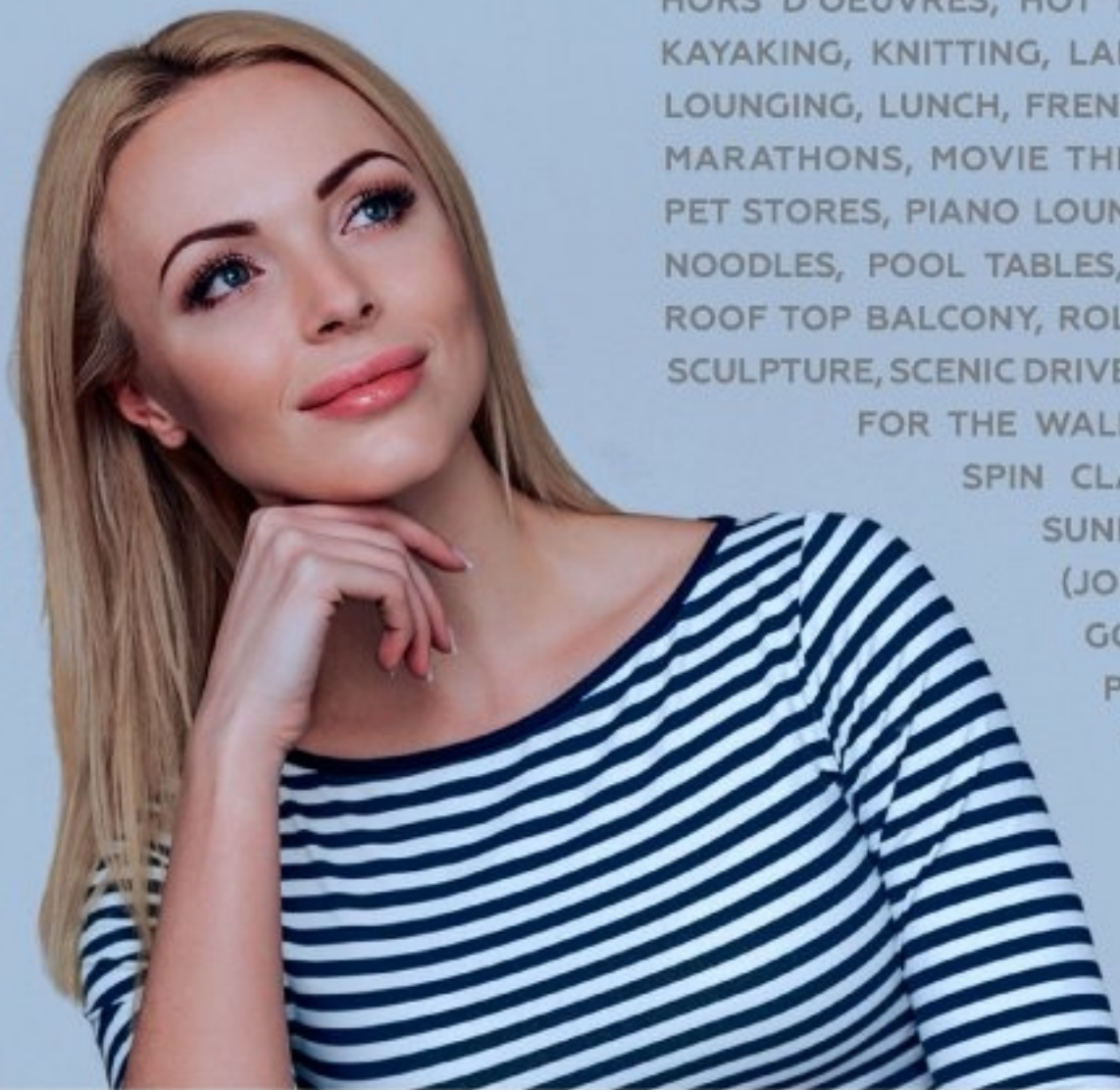


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APPETIZERS, AQUASIZE, BACKSTROKE, BADMINTON, BARBEQUE, BASKETBALL COURT, BAGUETTES, BEACH VOLLEYBALL, BIKING, BISCOTTI, BISTRO, BOARD GAMES, BOOKS, BOUTIQUE SHOPS, BREAKFAST, BRIDGE, BRUNCH, BUILDING SAND CASTLES, CAFÉ, CANNON BALLS, CANOEING, CAR SHOW, CARDIO, CARDS, CEDARS, CHAIRMAN'S STEAKHOUSE, CHARCUTERIE, CHARDONNAY, CHEESE, COFFEE WITH THE BOYS, COFFEE WITH THE GIRLS, CONCIERGE SERVICE, CONVENIENCE, COOKING, CRAFT ROOM, DANCING, DATE NIGHT, DAYCARE, DEMO KITCHEN, DESSERT, DINNER WITH FAMILY, DINNER PARTIES, DOG PARKS, DRINKS WITH FRIENDS, FIRE PIT, FLOOR HOCKEY, FLOWER SHOPS, FRISBEE, FISHING, GARDEN RETREAT, GOURMET FOOD, GROCERIES, GUEST SUITES, GYMNASIUM, HAIRSTYLISTS, HIDE-AND-GO-SEEK, HORS D'OEUVRES, HOT TUB, ICE CREAM, INDOOR POOL, JOGGING PATHS, JUICE BAR, KARAOKE, KAYAKING, KNITTING, LAKE MAHOGANY, LANE POOL, LIVE MUSIC, LONG WALKS, LONGBOARDING, LOUNGING, LUNCH, FRENCH MANICURE, MARKETPLACE, MEDITATION, MERLOT, MILKSHAKES, MOVIE MARATHONS, MOVIE THEATRE, PAINTING CLASS, PADDLE BOARDING, PARKS, PATIOS, PEDICURE, PET STORES, PIANO LOUNGE, PICNIC, PILATES, PINE TREES, PLAYING CATCH, PLUS 15'S, POKER, POOL NOODLES, POOL TABLES, POPCORN FOR DINNER, POTLUCKS, QUILTING, READING, RESTAURANTS, ROOF TOP BALCONY, ROLLERBLADING, ROSÉ, ROWING, RUMMY, RUNNING, S'MORES, SALADS, SAND SCULPTURE, SCENIC DRIVE, SEWING, SKATEBOARDING, SKATING AROUND THE LAKE, SMOOTHIES, SNACK FOR THE WALK HOME, SNOW ANGELS, SNOWSHOEING, SOCCER, SPA, SPECIAL EVENTS, SPIN CLASSES, SPLASHING, SPORTS FIELD, SPRUCES, STRETCHING, STROLLING, SUNBATHING, SWEETS, SECURITY, TAG!, TAI CHI, TEA, TENNIS, THE HQ RESTAURANT (JOURNEY CLUB), TUNNELS AND WALKWAYS, UNDERGROUND PARKING, VIRTUAL GOLF, VOLLEYBALL, WADING POOL, WALKING TRACK, WATER FIGHTS, WATER POLO, WATER SLIDE, WEIGHT LIFTING/WEIGHT TRAINING, WINE CELLAR, WOODWORKING, YOGA.

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